THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 9TH MAY.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL in announcing to the House of Lords his resignation of his seat in the Cabinet made the following remarks :

I can only say, therefore, that, while I approve and heartily support every measure which can reasonably be taken to increase the number of owners of land in Ireland, I am opposed to measures which tend to destroy ownership altogether, by depriving it of the conditions which are necessary to the exercise of its functions. (Hear, hear.) My lords, it has been one of the professed objects of the Liberal party to get rid, as much as possible, of those restrictions which constitute what is called "limited ownership" in land. My opinion is that the scheme of the Government will tend to paralyze the ownership of land in Ireland by placing it, for all time to come, under new fetters and limitations under which it is not placed in any other civilized country in the world. Under this scheme neither the landlord nor the tenant will be owner. In Ireland, ownership will be in commission or in abeyance. My lords, I regard this result as injurious to the agricultural industry of any country, and especially injurious to a country in the condition of Ireland. I am not able to develop this opinion or to defend it now; but I trust it will, at least, be recognized as an opinion which represents an objection fundamental in its character, and affecting, more or less directly, several leading proposals of the Government. (Hear hear.) Holding the opinion I have indicated of the Government scheme, I could not, as an honest man, be responsible for recommending it, as a whole, to the adoption of Parliament. My lords, I have only further to say that I have taken this step with deep regret on account of the separation which it makes between myself and my noble friends near me, and especially with my right hon. friend at the head of the Government. (Hear.) My lords, I have had the honour of a close political connexion with my right hon. friend now for the long period of 29 years—a connexion on my part of ever increasing affection and respect. Nothing but an absolute sense of public duty, in relation to a question of immense and far reaching consequence could have compelled me to take the step which I have now reluctantly intimated to the House. (Hear, hear.)

THE FOLLOWING conversations took place in the House of Commons :

THE IRISH WORLD.

Mr. Tottenham asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland whether his attention had been called to the last number of the *Irish World*, a newspaper the avowed object of which was to incite the Irish people to sedition and rebellion, and in which the assassination of the Czar was treated as a legitimate incident in a civil war, in a paragraph headed "The War in Russia, the commander of the Imperialists slain, and score of staff officers and Cossacks killed and wounded," and "the Nihilist victory" is fully described, wherein, also the following paragraphs appear :—

"England is 'intoxicated with power and robbery, a peace-destroyer, and a right-invader. Her record of infamy is not of one period, but of to-day and all time. Her presence is ever a life long damnation and curse.' The whole Irish race is exhorted to pray on their knees 'to the Most High for the suppression of the British Empire.'

"The British Government better known as the 'Pirate Empire,' constructs gallows for patriots, dungeons for statesmen, and palaces for their criminals. On Ireland! in the agonies of the starving death—dowered with a curse by a Parliament of the most inhuman fiends known to history, they stand to-day the most perfect embodiment of unrelieved iniquity known since the days of Sodom.

"My last words to-day are to study the use of arms; form military clubs; keep from whiskey and tobacco. Keep close mouths, and pray to our Heavenly Father fervently for the downfall of the 'British Empire' and the great wrongs it upholds."

Whether the Government allowed the *Irish World* to be freely circulated through the whole length and breadth of Ireland; whether he was aware that the gratuitous circulation was largely subscribed for by the Land League branches in the United States as a means of Socialistic and revolutionary propaganda directed against the maintenance of English rule and the recognition of property in land; and whether he intended to take any steps to check or put an end to the circulation of such a production.

Mr. W. E. Forster.—I must say that I think I answered with sufficient fulness in reply to an inquiry which was put to me yesterday. The attention of Her Majesty's Government has been directed to the *Irish World* and to the particular copy of it to which the question of the hon. and gallant gentleman refers, but I would say that nothing is more difficult than to stop the circulation of a foreign newspaper in these kingdoms. It is easy and is therefore the duty of the Government where there is a publication of which we have heard recommending assassination to proceed against the publisher, when they find the press established in this country, but the difficulty in doing this in the case of the introduction of a foreign newspaper is very great and I cannot understand any hon. member failing to see the difference between the two cases.

Mr. Tottenham.—What I wish to know is whether there are or are not legal powers to deal with the newspaper, or whether it is not deemed advisable to exercise them.

Mr. A. Sullivan wished to know whether, if there was any such power it was only intended to use it against persons found in possession of the paper—persons, in fact, in the position of the hon. member who put the question. (Oh, oh! and a laugh.)

Mr. Healy asked whether it was not a fact that the *Irish World* newspaper had not largely increased in circulation since the question concerning it had been put in the House.

Mr. W. E. Forster.—The hon. member asks what legal measures can be taken? Suppose I were to tell him, does he think it would be to the advantage of law and order?

Mr. Tottenham.—The right hon. gentleman is in error. All I want to know is whether there are legal powers to deal with the matter.

Mr. W. E. Forster.—The articles published in the *Irish World* and the fact of its circulation in Ireland are occupying the attention of the Government. (Hear, hear.)

THE FOLLOWING is the text of the vote of thanks to the Indian Army in connection with the Affghan War :

1. That the thanks of this House be given to General Sir Frederick Paul Haines, G. C. B., G. C. S. I., C. I. E., Commander-in-Chief in India, for the ability and judgment with which he directed the recent operations from September, 1879, to September, 1880, in Afghanistan. 2. That the thanks of this House be given to Lieutenant-General Sir Donald Martin Stewart, G.C. B.; Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Onesiphorus Bright, K. C. B.; Major-General Sir John Ross, K. C. B.; Major-General Sir Frederick Sleigh Roberts, G. C. B., C. I. E., V. C.; Major-General Sir James Hills, K. C. B., V. C.; Major-General Sir Robert Phayre, K. C. B.; Major-General (local) John Watson, C. B., V. C.; and the other officers of the army, both European and native, for the intrepidity, skill, and preseverance displayed by them in the military operations in Afghanistan, and for their indefatigable zeal and exertions during the late campaign. 3. That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the valour and perseverance displayed by the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, both European and native, employed in Afghanistan during the late campaign, and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their gallant behaviour, 4. That the said resolutions be transmitted by the Lord Chancellor to the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and that his lordship be requested to communicate the same to the several officers referred to therein."

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following reply to the letter we have already published regarding the Serampore Municipality :

SIR,—In the last number of the *Patriot* there is a long letter about the Serampore Municipality. It is not my intention to refute or contradict any portion of the statements made by your correspondent, although his conclusions do not appear to me to be always sound. I am induced to write to you these few lines because I take a sincere interest in the success of the elective system and am grieved to find that it has proved such a sad failure in Serampore. Under the old rules any rate-payer could be elected a member, and the consequence was that some not very fit persons were elected, and it was talked about that when such was the case, respectable people would not care to serve as Commissioners. One of the Commissioners, a young and influential Zemindar, went so far as to tender his resignation on the ground of being compelled to associate with men of such inferior social position. These and other considerations induced the Government to alter the rules for election, to impose a qualification of paying Rs. 10 annually as Municipal taxes upon candidates for election. The result has been faithfully described by your correspondent. No candidates eligible under the new rules were nominated for election. For five vacancies in Serampore not one gentleman paying an annual tax of ten rupees came forward as a candidate and at last the Chairman got two mooktears of his court ignorant of English and an old Commissioner who lost his seat for not attending six consecutive meetings nominated (not elected by the rate-payers) to keep up the sham of an elected Municipality. From the above you can form your own opinion as to whether the elective system has proved a success or a failure here. With regard to the temper of some of the Commissioners I will give you only one instance. On the 28th March last a special meeting was held by the Chairman for fixing the salary of the Overseer. There were five members present, three Government officers and two non-officials. One of the Government officers, an employe in a Calcutta office, was an elected Commissioner but he voted against his previously expressed opinion, as he openly said, simply to please Sir Ashley Eden. Now, I ask, Sir, whether such proceedings are calculated to ensure success for the elective system.

The controversy must stop here. We cannot make room for further correspondence.

THE REPORT of the Committee of Enquiry into the Indian military accounts recommends the appointment of a Permanent Committee in London as the final revisional authority. In this recommendation Lord Hartington concurs.

TUESDAY, 10TH MAY.

WE ARE SORRY to read the following in the Lahore *Tribune* :

About a year ago some Mahomedans here published a nasty book called the *Katha Saloi*, attacking the religion of the Hindoos in a most outrageously insulting way. The book is unspeakably indecent and is an extremely silly and shameful attack on Hinduism. Some Hindoos sometime after the publication of the above book, published a reply to it under the name of *Jowab Katha Saloi*. This also is equally indecent, and a furious attack on Mahomedanism. The authors of these books come under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code; and we are told the Mahomedans have made up their mind to institute a case against the author and publisher of the *Jowab Katha Saloi*. There is a commotion going on in the city, at present, and we shall not be surprised if a disturbance breaks out here between Hindus and Mahomedans like that of Moolton.

We had hoped that the old feud between the Hindus and Mahomedans had passed away. We hope the authorities will pour oil over troubled waters.

THE LAND LEAGUE of Ireland has been raising thousands of pounds weekly, but the subscriptions, says a contemporary, have come from anywhere save Ireland. At a recent Home Rule meeting in Dublin it was announced that the weekly subscriptions amounted to £2,597. Of this sum £1,256 came from the American League; £1,000 from the *Irish World*, an American newspaper; and £30 from an anti-coercion meeting in Dundee. This accounts for £2,286 out of the £2,597, leaving a balance of £311, which will scarcely do more than cover the regular levy going on among Irishmen in every town in Great Britain. It is difficult to misunderstand the meaning of this; our contemporary, whom we quote, says it proves to a domonstration that Mr. Parnell and his friends do not represent the people in Ireland, but Irishmen for the most part out of Ireland.

MR. DILLON, who has been arrested for making inflammatory speeches, thus criticises Mr. Gladstone's Irish Land Bill :

"If the Bill were to become law, what was the first question that would cross the path of the Central Executive of the Land League? It was this—Should they advise the tenants to go into Court on rack-renting estates or not? That was a question of great gravity and difficulty. If, on the one hand, they advised the tenants to go into Court, and if the award were against them, what would be the moral position of the tenantry? If again, they did not advise them to go into the Court, could they pursue that policy which had been the foundation policy of the League, and which had worked so much good in the way of reducing rents? He warned the League to consider these points. Let them consider the effect of putting a landlord into the position of saying to a tenant "If your rent is unjust, there is a Court that will give you a just rent." Let them consider the moral effect of that on the tenantry. Let them consider the effect it would have in strengthening the enemies of the League, now reduced to silence by the enormous power of their organisation. This was the first consideration that he would bring forward, should they be able to maintain in the face of the Bill, if passed into law, a combined strike of tenantry against rack-rent? The second consideration was—should they be able in the face of the operation of the Bill, to take effectual means to protect the tenantry from land grabbers? The man who had drawn up the Bill had been previously sent to study the Irish Land League, and he had drawn the Bill so as, if possible, to crush the League. He had studied the condition of the Irish small farmers, and he had drawn a clause which, on the pretence of putting an end to eviction, made it possible where the League had made it impossible. It made it the interest of the poor small farmer to sell to the land grabber. It nominally gave him freedom of sale, and how could the League tell him not to avail himself of it? This was a bribe before him, and a direct temptation to him to break away from the Land League. If they accepted this Bill as an instalment of justice it would come to the Irish tenant farmer to be a choice whether he would take it as a settlement or trust to the national Land League. Speaking as he did, having charge of the organisation in Ireland, he believed if the Bill passed into law it would take all the power out of the Land League, though it might not kill it.

Again :

Summing up what he considered would be the effect of the Bill during the next five or six years if it passed into law, he said they were, first, the quiet, steady, and inevitable eviction of at least fifty thousand families who now owed large arrears of rent that was in the districts of the four counties he had already alluded to; secondly, after two or three years—not immediately, because no landlord now would talk of raising his rent, but when the times mended—there would be a considerable raising of rents upon the low-rented estates of Ireland, there would be a great increase in absenteism, and a draining of rental out of Ireland; and fourthly, one of the worst features of the Bill was the terrific flood of litigation it would cause, calculated to turn all the money out of the country into the pockets of the country attorneys and lawyers. [Cheers and a voice, "This is a milch cow for the lawyers" (laughter).] The effects of the measure were so vital to the future interests of the Irish farmers, and to the happiness and prosperity of the Irish people that far be it from him to say that he would undertake to decide what attitude the Irish people should adopt in reference to it. Personally, he greatly feared that the tenant farmers would find themselves under the action of the Bill worse off than now. (Cheers.)

MR. PARNELL on the same subject :

There is a defect in the bill in addition to the fact that all arrears of rent must be paid—that tenants who may have been paying rack-rent for a number of years, two or three years, or perhaps 20 or 30 years, and who may have got into debt to money lenders or shopkeepers to pay their rent, are not entitled to take into account the fact that this exhorbitant rent has been paid for a number of years. If the tenant has been paying a rack-rent for a great number of years, he should be entitled to restitution in the future payment of his rent. The establishment of a peasant proprietary is the only solution of the question. We propose to establish it—firstly, by forcible expropriation of the bad landlords, and secondly, by the State advancing money to the tenants to buy their holdings from the landlords willing to sell them these holdings. It is impossible to adopt any alternative of the solution presented by the first portion of the Government Bill except compulsory expropriation of bad landlords. The first part of the bill will certainly render it more difficult for a landlord to evict or rack-rent tenants in the future, though I fear at best it will prove disappointing to the bulk of the tenantry who trust to its provisions. I look forward with much more hope and I anticipate much better results from the provisions establishing a peasant propietary and enabling public companies to buy lands in this country for the purpose of emigrating thereto the tenants from the crowded districts. The provisions of the second portion of the bill are taken almost line for line from the recomendations of the Committee of the Land League of April, 1880. I look upon the power of letting holdings to tenants in fee farm as the most valuable provision of the whole measure, as it secures to the tenants of such states as are allowed to take advantage of this part of the measure the right of becoming permanet tenants, at a reduction of fully 35 per cent, on their present rents. In fact, I don't see how rack-renting landlords can receive any money at all for their estates, or any rent in future, except under the provisions of this portion of the bill. The only objectionable feature of this part of the measure is the emigration scheme. I look upon this emigration scheme as deliberately intended to clear off a very large number of small tenants throughout Ireland, and they are the tenants whom this bill designs to emigrate to some British colonial possession. We ought to set our faces determinately against anything of the sort.

ELECTRIC LIGHT has been introduced into the city of London. According to a contemporary the whole circuit of the lamps, from London-bridge to Blackfriars, by way of Cheapside, St. Paul's churchyard, and Ludgate-hill, were lit simultaneously, for electricity abolishes the lamplighter. Almost anywhere in the streets the smallest print could be read with ease, so radiant was the pure white light. Near the Mansion House three lofty lamps, each 75 feet high, and some 3,000 candle power, shed a splendid light on the surrounding area, rendering the view of the Royal Exchange, Bank, and Civic Palace a sight well worth beholding. The gas-lamps were entirely eclipsed.

THE PIONEER thus comments on the Rent decision of the High Courts, which has been brought to public notice by Mr. Rainey of Khulnea :

A correspondent of the *Englishman* has recently called attention to a striking instance of the inconvenience and hardship inflicted by the now fashionable method of legislating by way of "illustration;" that is of introducing new substantive law in the guise of illustrations to legal enactments, of which they are in reality amplifications. Important changes of the law may be thus effected without attracting notice, without public discussion, and without any opportunity being given to the parties interested either of becoming aware of the contemplated change in their position or of judging how it will affect them. Thus Section 43 of the new Code of Civil Procedure provides, as did the previous law, that "every suit shall include the whole of the claim which the plaintiff is entitled to make in respect of the cause of action." So far all is as it was before; but the "illustration" to the section gives this familiar rule a totally new application, upsets a long course of judicial decisions, and deprives landlords of a right which, up to the moment of the passing of the Act, they undoubtedly enjoyed, *viz.*, of treating each year's rent as a separate cause of action, and suing for it separately if they chose to do so.

Many landlords will, of course, only learn of the change of the law when they find their claim disallowed under an "illustration" of which they never heard, and which was passed without the least reference to their rights, or to the previous current of judicial decision. Yet these are the "illustrations" which Mr. Stokes is accustomed to sow broadcast about the country, and which will, if his bills are ever passed, alter the existing law in a hundred particulars, of which the public has no notice, and of which even legislative experts can have beforehand but a very inadequate conception.

We concur.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH MAY.

THE TRIAL of the assassins of the Czar of Russia has been concluded. All the prisoners, six in number—four men and two women—were found guilty, and were sentenced to be hanged. Several of them addressed the Court, and avowed their guilt, and while they attempted to justify their crime, Sophie Peroffskaya, who is a lady by birth and education, demanded that no consideration for her sex should prevent her sharing the fate of her accomplices.

A MANIFESTO of the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary party in Russia has been addressed to the Emperor Alexander III. The committee call upon his Majesty to grant a general amnesty to all political offenders, and to convoke representatives of the whole Russian people for the revision of the existing forms of Government, and their reconstruction in accordance with the desires of the people. This done, the committee promises to conform to the decisions arrived at, and to have no further recourse to violence.

A CONTEMPORARY give the following account of the mourning costume of the Czar of Russia : Black flannel with long sleeves buttoned to the wrist, a train four feet long; collar and cuffs of fine cambric, with wide hems; bonnet of black crape with a pointed bandeau, and lined with black silk; two thick black crape veils, one to fall over the face, and the other to cover the whole dress; gloves, shoes, and fans also black. In 18 weeks cashmere may take the place of flannel, six weeks later black silk, and white crape bonnets.

GENERAL SCOBELEFF has sent an official despatch to St. Petersburg reporting that the principal leader of the Tekke Turcomans and several other influential Sirdars, together with a number of followers, had arrived at Askabad intending to declare their submission to the Russian authorities. Sirdar Tikma, on being assured of the Imperial pardon, swore allegiance to the Emperor. This will bring the expedition to a close.

A CORRESPONDENT at Nubbeegunge in Sylhet writes that lately a zenana lady was arrested there in execution of a decree, but instead of being taken to court she was allowed to stay in the house of a relative on furnishing security.

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT says that a poor up-countryman who had kept concealed in a earthen pot under ground in that part of his room where he used to make his bed the sum of Rs. 1038 in silver laid by for the marriage of his daughter, found all on a sudden that the money and the pot had disappeared. The case is under police enquiry.

THURSDAY 12TH MAY.

A MAGURA CORRESPONDENT thus carricatures road-making under a BIANCH ROAD CESS COMMITTEE :

Select the oldest under-burnt brickbats you can find for soling, edging and khoa. Soling to consist of one brick laid flat between edging of zigzag lines, the whole to be 7 feet wide in case of a foot-path without any flanks on either side. Over the soling thus formed spread half an inch thick of khoa and consolidate by sprinkling over it a few tollahs of water and rolling by a small stone roller only two and half times. Spread four inches of rubbish over the khoa and finish off by laying on it fine sifted red soorkee of the thickness of a horse hair. If you do not understand what you are to do take instructions from the Deputy or the Sub-Deputy Collector or the Kanoongoe.

A CHHATAK CORRESPONDENT writes that on the 2nd instant that place was visited by a furious gale at about 8 P. M. The wind blew first from south-west and then it veered to the north-west, and the violence lasted more than an hour. Many houses have been blown down, many trees uprooted, and a large number of boats with cargo have been lost. The mango crop which was a very copious one this year has sustained serious injury. No report of loss of life has been received.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that Babu Annodaprosaud Koondoo and brothers have thoroughly repaired and metalled the road called the Koondoo's Road from Shibpore to Mohiari, a distance of seven miles at a cost of nearly Rs. 30,000 The original road was constructed at the expense of their ancestor the late Babu Nittyanund Koondoo at a cost of Rs. 40,000.

WE HAVE RECEIVED copies of a new Vernacular paper entitled the *Bharut Bundhu* or *Friend of India*. We wish it success.

NEWS FROM Bagdad dated 2nd May states that plague cases at Nejef continue to average sixty daily and that Bagdad and Bushire continue healthy. —*Press Commissioner's Office.*

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy and Governor General will hold a levee at Peterhoff, Simla, on the 24th instant on the occasion of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress's birth-day.

REFERRING to the last resolution of the local Government on the scheme for the reorganization of the lower Subordinate Executive Service and to the grant of travelling allowance to Sub-Deputy Collectors a correspondent remarks that the rules will only benefit officers who work in dry districts and whose journeys entail upon them no expense, but it will be hard for those whose lot is cast in river districts where no journeys can be performed except by boat It not unfrequently happens that a Sub-Deputy Collector is obliged to halt at a place on pressing duty, keeping his boat with him, as no boats are available in many places—what will the daily allowance do for him?

THE BOMBAY PAPERS refer to the occurrence of a fracas in that city between the soldiers of the 23 N. I. and the Bombay Police on the Railway service. The soldiers it appears wanted to proceed to their quarters on the Esplanade by a road not allowed to ordinary passengers. On one of the Railway Policemen calling to the men and warning them not to take that road they assaulted the police and some of the officers and men received serious injuries, and the men were not quieted until the commanding officer of the regiment used all his influence to persuade the men to pile up arms and retire.

FRIDAY 13TH MAY.

WE ARE requested to state that the Victoria Institute or Philosophical Society of Great Britain is now supported by eight hundred and sixty members, among whom are 39 Prelates, The Duke of Argyll, K.G., F.R.S., Sir J. Fayrer, F.R.S., Professors Stokes, F.R.S., Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S., J.C. Dawson, F.R.S., Hughes, F.R.S., Nicholson, F.R.S.E., and Balfour Stewart, F.R.S., and other Fellows of the Royal Society, and Dr. Rassam, are among those adding to the value of its proceedings during the past year.

IT IS stated that Mr. Justice Cunningham will succeed Mr. Whitley Stokes as Law Member of the Governor General's Council. He is a clever man, and as he has been opposed to over-legislation, we dare say he will carry his past professions into practice.

A CURIOUS spiritualist case was lately tried in London. A certain Mrs. Fletcher was found guilty of having obtained property from a Mrs. Hart-Davies by fraud and false pretences, and was sentenced by Mr. Justice Hawkins to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour. Mr. Fletcher who thinks it wiser under the circumstances to remain in America is a "medium," and the result of his trances was that Mrs. Hart-Davies received orders from her mother in the spirit-world to give up her jewels, &c., to Mrs. Fletcher. For some time Mrs. Hart-Davies was a willing victim, but as is usually the case with friends of this description she and the Fletchers fell out at last, and the trial with which the public has been entertained of late was the result of the quarrel.

IN SUPPORTING the protest of the British Indian Association against the introduction of the Romanization system in Behar the *Behar Herald* says :

"We regret to say that the obstructiveness of the amlah still prevails to a serious extent, and they are encouraged in it by passive toleration on the part of the superior officers. Mr. Beveridge, the Judges of Patna, has from the first lent an easy ear to the complaints of the Mahomedan pleaders and amlah of his Court in regard to the unsuitability of the Hindi character for use in the business of the Courts; and in fact he has permitted one of the Sub-Judges to record evidence in the Persian character in spite of the stringent orders to the contrary of Government and of the High Court."

We are glad to learn that Mr. Beveridge has since withdrawn his order.

THE TIMES OF INDIA has the following :

The *Hindu Patriot* in referring to the recent election of the eloquent Babu Lal Mohan Ghose as a member of the Cobden Club, says:—"This is the first time an Indian has been honoured by the Cobden Club, and Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose well deserves the honour." This may be the first time an Indian has been honoured by the Cobden Club, but a Parsee, Mr. Furdoonjee Jamshedjee, a well known servant of the Nizam's Government, has been a member of the Club for some time, and the late Sir Coomara Swamy, who by the way was married to an English lady, also enjoyed the same privilege for several years before his death.

WE HAVE received several complaints from Khurdah that burglary and theft are on the increase there and that the Police are remiss in the discharge of their duties. There is a general feeling of insecurity among the people. We hope the District Superintendent of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, will direct his attention to this matter.

SATURDAY 14TH MAY.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that a movement is contemplated to start another Ice Company in Calcutta. Competition is highly necessary, as the break-down of the present Ice Company in this season has been most lamentable.

WE OBSERVE that the Tramway Company have taken time by the forelock. They have it is stated given compensation to Mr. Ameer Ali for the damage done to his carriage by a tramcar. We wish others, who suffer damage from tramcars, were equally demonstrative.

THE STORY of the Silver Lead Mine Company is a romance. Mr. Archer has certainly proved an arch. The Calcutta correspondent of the *Pioneer* draws this moral from the Silver Lead business: "As it is—and all who know anything of the inner working of Companies will confirm what I say—it is the easiest thing possible to commit fraud, and, where a Company is not prospering, must be even tempting." What a world we live in!

AT THE LAST Criminal Sessions of the High Court three Fakirs named Lall Jogi, Rughunath Jogi and

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Ganga Jogi were charged, the first with kidnapping a boy named Basunto Chunder Chuckerbutty and the two others with aiding and abetting him in the offence. In evidence it came out that the boy while passing by a Hindu temple on his way to a milkman to fetch some milk was forcibly taken away to Mirbohur's Ghat. The first prisoner who was caught in the street was sentenced to five years', the second to three years', and the 3rd to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's office :

Simla, May 7th.—The force marched on the 3rd of May six miles from Kundiwom in the Khyssara Valley to the Ihahalum (?) plateau, two miles beyond Torwam in the direction of Khanigorum. There was a considerable gathering of men on the hills to the right of Shahalum, but they were rapidly dispersed by the first Sikhs with a loss of twenty men left killed on the ground. Our casualties were two killed and four wounded. The towers belonging to Juma Pira and Ali Muhammad Nano Khel, Mallicks of Khyssara valley who have failed to submit, were blown up. On the 4th of May the force marched through the Charai forest over the Shorunga Pass into the Badur Algad ; there was no opposition ; all was quiet. On the fifth May the force marched 3½ miles to Khanigoram A small column visited the head of the Shuddur valley, and destroyed the towers of the Gizar Khel Nano Khels. The Nuzar Khel Ahmad Khels of the next valley, Tungi, submitted in a body, fearing the same result to themselves.

10th.—The force march on the 7th May to Sam, one mile below Khanigoram. All was quiet. The Maidan headmen came in. A survey party left for Pirghul, and returned on the 8th. In the skirmish on the 3rd May a further report says that a body of about 500 men disputed the passage of a Kotal which was successfully carried by our troops. Our casualties were three killed and fifteen wounded, all of the native ranks. General Gordon's brigade has marched up the Khyssara Pass, accompanied by representatives of the tribes inhabiting the Valley. A few shots have been fired at the force. The tribes are making arrangements to keep order. He is expected to meet General Kennedy on the 10th or 11th.

11th.—General Kennedy and General Gordon met on the 10th at Razmak. A convoy escort, sending supplies for General Kennedy's force on the same day, had a skirmish with Mahsud hill men ; one man of the Rifle Brigade was slightly, and one Sowar of the 18th Cavalry severely, wounded. The 4th Punjab Cavalry, the 32nd Pioneers, the 8th company of Sappers, and three guns of No. 4 Mountain Battery from General Kennedy's Brigade joined General Gordon's force on the same day. During General Gordon's advance up the Khyssara Valley, a Private of the Rifle Brigade was shot dead while straying beyond the lines of outer pickets. The Mahmet Khel within whose limits the case occurred, were fined. A report at Quetta from Kandahar says that nearly all the Zemindwar Chiefs have submitted to the Amir.

13th.—It is reported at Quetta that 2,000 Khasadars and 500 Sowars have been sent from Kandahar to Girishk ; that all is quiet in Kandahar, and that the Alizai Chiefs have returned from Kandahar to Zamindawar after receiving *khilluts* and pay.

General Kennedy's brigade is returning down the Zam Valley to Tonk, and General Gordon's by the Shikto Valley to Bannu. They are expected to arrive by the 20th instant.

London, May 13th,—The Franco-Tunisian treaty places Tunis in a state of vassalage towards France. The latter has the control of the finances and all foreign relations, and is entitled to send troops to any part of the country. Great excitement prevails in Italy in consequence of the treaty.

Simla 14th.—Wuzari Expedition. General Gordon's force left Razmak on 13th on its way down Shiklo valley to Bannu.

THE FOLLOWING telegram has been sent to the press by Dr. Kavanagh, Legal Adviser of the ex-Gaekwar of Baroda at Simla :

"An incorrect and unfounded paragraph appeared in the *Pioneer* newspaper of May the 9th. I consider it as a ridiculous canard. The Government of India pointed out the subjects upon which I was to question the ex-Gaikwar. Upon those subjects I examined my client in the presence of Government officials. The proceedings of the interview I embodied in a report which I submitted to Government. His Excellency the Viceroy wrote to me on 14th March stating that all my representations contained in said report would be duly considered by Government. On the 2nd May I had an interview with the Foreign Secretary, and from what transpired during said interview I am quite satisfied that the Government will grant all the points raised by me in favour of my client Mulharrao, and which points were embodied in the report submitted by me to the Government of India after my interview with Mulharrao."

THERE WERE 245 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 7th May, of which 49 were from cholera, 1 from small-pox, 66 from fevers, 23 from bowel complaints, 5 from accidents and suicide, 10 from pthisis and asthma, 12 from convulsions, 19 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Ten children were still-born, 55 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year. Twenty-six persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. The deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races were 20. The daily average of mortality was 35.

SOME QUANTITY of different sorts of Gya tobacco advertized by the Gya Tobacco Company has been sent to us for trial. As we do not smoke the huka we had it tried by some friends, who speak very highly of it.

THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE notifies certain official arrangements consequent on the retirement of Mr. Buckland. We are glad to observe that Mr. F. B. Peacock is confirmed in the appointment of Presidency Commissioner. He is an excellent officer, discriminating, just and kind-hearted.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the first number of a new paper called the *Halisahar Prokasika*. We cannot say whether it is the *Halisahar Putrika redivivus*. We wish the projectors every success.

WE HAVE RECEIVED some samples of steel pens from Mr. Trail called Trail's pens. The galvanized nibs draw well and freely.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals :—1 Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India with foreign countries and of the coasting trade of the several presidencies and provinces for 1880 Vol. II No. 14. 2. Trade and navigation accounts of British India for March 1881 and the 12 months 1st April 1880 to 31st March 1881. 3. Army Circulars for March 1881. 4. Report of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes for 1880. 5. Moulvi Tamiz Khan, Khan Bahadoor's memorial to the Lieutenant Governor for a special pension with a copy of his testimonials. 6. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for March 1881. 7. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal Vol. L Part II, No. 1 1881. 8. The Hindoos as they are—the description of the manners, customs and inner life of Hindoo Society in Bengal. By Sib Chunder Bose. 9. Hindu Darshan, a Bengali monthly Nos. 2 to 5 Vol. II. 10. Nolini, a Bengali monthly No. 1 Vol. II. for Baisakh 1288 B. E.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, May 6th.—Mr. Gladstone is indisposed.

7th.—The Marquis of Hartington replying to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that the Indian Government had received no information confirming the report that a Russian mission had been sent to Kabul, and that the Amir had asked the advice of the Indian Government upon all communications he had received from the Russian officials respecting the return of his son. Lord Hartington further stated that Russia had not accredited a native agent at Kabul. Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister at Washington, has been appointed British Ambassador at St. Petersburgh. Later particulars state that Mr. Gladstone is only slightly indisposed.

9th.—Advices from the Cape state that a new Ministry has been formed there. Mr. Scanlan acting as Premier, and Attorney General, and Mr. Molteno as Colonial Secretary. Riots caused by evictions for rent still continue in Ireland.

10th.—In the House of Commons last night the proposal to erect a monument in Westminisser Abbey to the late Earl Beaconsfield was carried by 380 votes against 54. In the House of Lords, the vote was carried unanimously. Mr Gladstone's speech in the House of Commons and Lord Granvilles in the House of Lords upon the late Earl were of a highly eulogistic character.

11th.—Mr. Gladstone in reply to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that the action of the Secretary of State for India in sending delegates to the Metallic Conference has in no way committed the Indian Government to anything in nature of adoption of a bi-currency. The Secretary of State for India will not encourage any material change in the monetary policy in India, but any measure calculated to promote the re-establishment of the value of silver will be favourably considered.

13th.—The *Standard* publishes a telegram from Cape Town stating that fighting has taken place in the Transvaal between the native tribes and the Boers.

12th.—Mr. Bradlaugh has written a letter to the speaker in the House of Commons stating that his late expulsion from the House was illegal. Sir Wilfred Lawson gave notice in the House of Commons of a motion that the exclusion of Mr. Bradlaugh from the precincts of the House of Commons was illegal,

Cairo May 12th.—News has been received here that order has been restored at Mecca.

St. Petersburg May 12th.—Serious riots against the Jews have occurred in the south of Russia.

Paris May 12th.—At the Metallic Conference meeting held to-day, Mr. Horton, Delegate from the United States, and M. Cernuschi, the French Delegate, advocated a bi-metallic standard. The French Ministry have informed the Chambers that they have demanded of the Bey of Tunis durable guarantees for the permanent tranquillity of the Algerian-Tunisian frontier, but they disavowed a policy of annexation and emphatically declared that the matter solely concerned the French.

Algiers May 23rd.—The Bey of Tunis has accepted the ultimatum of the French Government, and has signed the treaty agreeing to the appointment of a French Resident in Tunis. The French troops have consequently not occupied the city of Tunis.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 16, 1881.

THE OPIUM REVENUE.

OUR opium revenue is again in jeopardy—not from external but from internal causes. A revenue which depends upon the habits of a foreign nation is necessarily precarious in its nature, and our Government has therefore always had misgivings about it. But opium is a most important source of revenue to India, and we do not think that it is in the nature of things that it will soon come to an end. It yields about one-sixth of our total revenue, and its stability depends upon the deep-rooted habits of the people of the most populous country in the world. It would be as reasonable to say that John Bull would go without his customary beer as to hold that John Chinaman would go without his opium. So far then we may rely upon the opium revenue. Of course there are rocks ahead. There is competition with Persia, Turkey, America, and even China herself. But fortunately Bengal opium has a superiority of its own in the estimation of the Chinese, which is not equalled or surpassed by the product of any other country. Hence it is that this country has always maintained its ground in the opium market of China. But if India should lose its opium revenue, it would not be owing to competition with other countries, or to the opposition of the Chinese, but to the ignorant interference of the British Parliament. A party of sentimental philanthropists contend that the opium traffic of India with China is immoral, that England is doing a serious wrong to China by forcing Indian opium upon her, and that even though the Chinese could not be prevented from consuming the drug, Christian England should free herself from this nefarious trade. It was on these grounds Mr. Pease got up in the last session of Parliament a debate on this question.

"As a Christian nation," said Mr. Pease, "they must deal with a question on certain laws laid down by that Gospel in which almost every one in the country believed, by the high moral law and by the international law which was observed among civilized nations." Lord Hartington replied to Mr. Pease and his party most effectively. Dealing first with the moral aspect of the question, His Lordship argued that it had yet to be proved that opium was really so demoralizing not only in its abuse, but also in its use, that the sale of it ought to be absolutely prohibited all over the world ; that till opium was proved to be more injurious than other stimulants it could not be urged that it was the duty of the British Government to assist the Chinese Government in the total prohibition of the trade ; that even if we did prohibit its exportation from India it was by no means certain that we should thereby very materially assist the Chinese Government in the prevention of its use in China, for much of the opium consumed in that country was grown by the Chinese themselves ; that it might well be doubted whether China really and seriously desired to put a stop to the use of this drug altogether ; and that the abolition of the Indian opium trade would simply have the effect of increasing the Chinese production of the drug and of reviving the illicit traffic in opium, which, when it existed, proved demoralizing to all concerned in it, merchants, sailors and Chinese officials. Mr. Fawcett made the following remarks on the moral question : "Much had been said about the immorality of the trade, but he never could see much difference between raising revenue from opium and raising 26 millions, as we did in this country to a great extent, out of the intemperance, improvidence and vice of the people. What was the difference ? He was opposed to much of what was proposed as temperance legislation, but he was as much a friend of temperance as any one could be, and he had no hesitation in saying that both in Ireland and in the back slums of Glasgow he could find scenes of misery produced by that drink out of which we raised revenue quite as humiliating as any you could find in China produced by the use of opium." So much for the moral question. Referring to the financial aspect of the question Lord Hartington said : "Whether the subject is brought on at this time or any other I must make some protest against the invitation addressed by my hon'ble friend and some of his supporters in the House, to consider this question entirely from the point of view of the dictates of morality as they are entertained by some members of this House and to altogether neglect the subject as it relates to India and Indian policy. My hon'ble friend says he should be sorry to be suspected of judging this question on the low standard of Indian finance. But it is a question of Indian finance. Among all the eloquent declamations on the subject I have not yet heard any suggestion that any, but the Indian Government and the Indian people should bear any loss the Indian revenue may sustain from the cessation of this tax. None has suggested that in deference to our moral feelings we are to recoup the Indian Government or the loss it would sustain. Of course, I do

not mean to say that we being charged with the Government of the great empire of India, can discard the dictates of morality; but on the other hand, I say that we must consider this question as an Indian question and not be led away solely by those feelings of morality in which we might justly indulge, if we were dealing with our own interests, and not with the interests of the millions of India. Morality of this kind is extremely cheap, and we should perhaps hear less of the immorality of this traffic and of the expediency of putting an end to it, immediately or prospectively, if these speeches had to be accompanied with a demand made on the English taxpayer for the £6,000,000 or £7,000,000, or some part of it; which it is proposed so lightly that India should surrender." The question then dropped. Lord Hartington's reply was a poser, and we had hoped that it would give a quietus to the sentimentalists, who raised this question. But nothing of the kind. The sentimentalists have renewed the agitation with redoubled vigour. They have held public meetings in different parts of the United Kingdom, brought about another debate in Parliament, and have so far succeeded as to induce the Secretary of State to give in on a very important point. The Marquis of Hartington is reported to have said "that the Indian Government have been requested to consider the whole system with a view towards making the connection of the Indian Government with the opium traffic less direct." This means that the opium monopoly is to be given up and that the revenue will be derived as an excise. This statement clears up the point which we raised in connection with the opium estimate of the current year's Budget. Major Baring stated that "under instructions from the Secretary of State Opium is taken at a low figure, namely £6,500,000 net." Why this sacrifice of revenue was made was not apparent to us. It is now clear that the low estimate was made to cover the loss, which will be incurred by the adoption of the excise system.

Now, what will be the advantage of the adoption of the Excise system. The Secretary of State said that the connection of the Indian Government with the opium traffic will be less direct. But will that take away the moral objection urged by Messrs. Pease and Co? The rupee will smell all the same whether it be taken as an excise tax or as the price of opium. The Chinese will continue to receive the drug from India as heretofore. They will inhale the poison as heretofore. The connection of the British Government with the traffic will substantially remain the same. Will the mere change of form in which the revenue is derived satisfy the Christian conscience of England? If it does, it must be a very easy conscience. If England could absolutely prohibit the trade in opium, it would be something. but she is not in a position to accomplish such a result. In the first place opium yields an enormous revenue to India, and as Lord Hartington said: last year, before England calls upon India to surrender this revenue she must be prepared to make good the loss. But the British tax-payer, we feel morally certain, will not tax himself for the gratification of his sentiment, and if he is not prepared to pay, he has no right to raise the question. Supposing, however, that England would make good the loss, which India would suffer, would she be able to cure the Chinese of the habit of taking opium? How will she prevent Persia, Turkey or America from supplying China with opium? Again, how will she prevent China from growing opium on her own land? And then the question arises—is opium after all so deleterious to health and morals as is supposed? Medical testimony does not by any means condemn the use of opium. In India opium has saved millions of lives. It is generally prescribed to Indians after they have passed the age of fifty. Opium is much less injurious to health and morals than ardent spirits, and if England continues to derive a handsome revenue from the latter, what reasonable objection can it have to the opium revenue of India? The adoption of the excise system will not in the least remove the moral objections taken to the traffic in opium, while it will only serve to entail on India a heavy financial loss. We reserve our remarks on this part of the question for a future issue.

THE SMALL CAUSE COURT BILL.

THE Small Cause Court Bill as it has left the hands of the Select Committee contains some curious provisions which demand notice at our hands.

The first alteration is in Section 7. The British Indian Association in referring to Section 8 of the original Bill which declared that "the "senior in appointment of the Judges who are "Barristers or Advocates shall be called the "Chief Judge and shall be the first of the "Judges in rank and precedence" pointed out that if there were only 2 Barrister Judges, one the First and the other the Fifth, the latter would be promoted to the First Judgeship and the Government was left without any right of selection whatever. The Bengal Government took the same view. "His Honor the Lieutenant Go- "vernor was of opinion that it should be "left to the Local Government to appoint the "Chief Judge and that there should be no "restriction which would prevent the Govern- "ment from selecting the best Barrister or Ad- "vocate it could find for the post whether he "be, or be not, already in the Court." Notwithstanding the reasonableness of these recommendations the Select Committee replace the first anomaly by another. Section 7 now declares that only *Advocates of High Courts* shall be appointed to one-third of the appointments including the Chief Judgship, and the Government will always be obliged to appoint a junior Advocate, for senior Advocates will not be had for the salaries, and all other Barristers of England, Ireland and Scotland are excluded. Any Barrister of 5 years' standing, and any Small Cause Court Judge, who is not a Barrister, of the same standing, may be a High Court Judge, but he cannot get one of the superior appointments in the Small Cause Court. The Chief Justice of the High Court will no longer be able to preside in the Small Cause Court, if it were necessary, as Sir Lawrence Peel often did in former days. The High Court Judges are *ex-officio* Judges of the Small Cause Court, and the late Mr. Justice Norman was the last Judge, who sat for the trial of certain officers of the Small Cause Court, but the Barrister Judges of the High Court who are not Advocates, will no longer be able to take part in any Small Cause Court trial or proceeding except in a subordinate capacity while the latest fledged Advocate may preside in the Court. This will be a very curious state of things. If there are to be restrictions at all the Government should, as the Lieutenant-Governor points out, be in a position at all times to select the best Barrister it can find and not be left at the mercy of the junior Bar. To give the monopoly to High Court Advocates will be to deprive the general body of English Barristers of one of their privileges as members of the highest branch of the legal profession. Junior Advocates have not a monopoly of "experience of the country." Judicial officers trained in the country have a better knowledge of the people, their language and customs, and a Native Judge is far in advance of any European Barrister in this respect. To supply experience of the country the court should be recruited from the ranks of the judicial service. We believe, however, that the Madras Government has taken an entirely diffferent view of the question and wishes to abolish all restrictions. The Madras Government letter says: "Section 8. The Bill would prevent the "Government from appointing any one of the "experienced native Judges now in the country "—even Mr. Mattuswami Aiyar, who is thought "competent for a seat in the High Court from "being appointed Chief Judge. This appears "an extremely invidious declaration to insert "in an Act of the Government of India. It is "further intended that a Barrister shall always "draw the salary of the highest paid Judge of "the Court. If so, here is an additional hard- "ship." This is probably the view, which the judicial service will take of the question, and considering the high character of the Legal Degrees now taken at the Universities, and the great improvement which has taken place in recent years in the judicial service it does seem invidious that they should be expressly excluded by legislative enactment from some of the prize appointments of the service. There is another point, which the Select Committee has apparently overlooked. How does the provision fit in with the Native Civil Service Rules? We believe it to be opposed to them and therefore that the Madras Government is right. Of course there are native Barristers and Advocates, but selection for the Native Civil Service is not confined to this class and as a fact no native Barrister or Advocate has as yet been appointed and as a person cannot become a Barrister any more than a competition-civilian, except by going to England, there will be very few if any Barristers in the Native Civil Service, and it is clearly intended by the rules of the service that a visit to England shall not be compulsory. It is also we believe the case that in the schedule of appointments specially reserved for the Native Civil Service is entered Small Cause Court Judgeship, so that here there is a clear and direct infringement of the rules, and every non-Advocate Barrister in the Civil Service will be excluded.

It is also by Section 8 proposed to abolish the present seniority rule in these Courts and to give the Government the power of appointing to particular posts. The persons so appointed will no doubt be the one-third Advocate appointees. What necessity for this? Why should Advocates take precedence of other Judges? The Barrister Judges in the High Courts do not take precedence of the Civilian and native Judges, but each Judge ranks according to the date of his appointment. We believe there was once a specially appointed English 2nd Judge, Mr. Thomson, in the Calcutta Court, but that has not been the rule for several years, and since Mr. Thomson's time a distinguished native gentleman has been second Judge of the Court. Is he to be deposed for an Advocate-Judge? The seniority rule is right and proper, and we should strongly object to any other. If good men are appointed to the lower posts they should be allowed to rise in the ordinary way, and the experience gained by them in these posts will be very valuable when they reach the higher ones. Since Babu Grishchunder Ghose left the Court no other native Judge has been appointed. Babu Grishchunder was an able and experienced Judge, but surely in the whole judicial service of Bengal it was possible to find a worthy successor to him. There are 3 English Barrister Judges in the Court now, and only one native Judge. Is this in accordance with the rules of the service, and is it not a great hardship to the judicial service to be always passed over for High Court Advocates.

The Select Committee have not improved Section 23 of the Bill notwithstanding that there was a complete consensus of opinion on the inapplicability of the extension of the Civil Procedure Code. The Government is also entirely opposed to the measure, which must result in great inconvenience, uncertainty, cost and delay. The Small Cause Court Judges were equally strong in their opposition and supplied statistics which give an unanswerable argument against the proposal. All this seems to have been lost upon the Select Committee, who, because the Madras Court, which is the smallest of the three Presidency Courts, with considerably fewer cases, is able to apply many of the provisions of the Code, thought it would work equally well in Calcutta and Bombay. The Calcutta Judges proposed that certain portions only of the Code, greatly modified, should be inserted in the body of the Act for the procedure of the Court, and sent in a complete Bill which did not require a reference to other Acts and this is what the Government wished and recommended to the legislature. We are at a loss therefore to understand how the SelectCommittee could possibly have come to the conclusions at which they have arrived and have re-issued the Bill in its original condition. We hope that it will yet take the form recommended by the Goverament and the public.

But it is not merely that the Select Committee has set aside as valueless the opinions of the Local Government, of experienced Judges and other officers, and of the public Associations, but it has added some further new and startling provisions to the Bill. By Section 24 the decisions of the Court are no longer to be final. The same question may be tried and retried as often as the

parties find the money for the purpose. Take the following illustrations to the Section :—

(b) " A sues B in the Small Cause Court for an instalment alleged to be due on a bond purporting to be executed by B. B. denies the execution of the Bond. The Court finds the execution proved and gives A a decree for the amount of the instalment. A subsequently sues B. for a later instalment on the same bond ; B is not precluded from again denying the execution."

(c) " A sues B as in illustration (b) B denies the execution of the Bond and the Court finding that B's signature was forged, dissmisses the suit. This does not preclude A from suing again on the Bond."

(d) " A sues B in the Small Cause Court for possession of a horse which A alleges to be his property and to have been lent to B to use during A's pleasure. B denies that the horse is A's. The Court finds that the horse is A's and gives him a decree for possession and A recovers possession of the horse. B subsequently alleging that the horse is his, sues A for possession of it. The decision in the former suit is no bar to B."

And B having got a decree for possession we suppose A may institute a fresh suit and having obtained another decree may again take possession of the horse and so on *ad infinitum !* The horse will have a lively time of it running from one stable to another. There were 2 learned *Advocates of the High Court* in addition to the Legal Member, on the Committee, who drew up this most wonderful Section. The reason put forward for it is, that it is " better to take the risk of this than to take the risk of having difficult questions of title to property of large value and complicated issues governing extensive transactions finally decided under an Act like this in the first petty case in which they may chance to present themselves." No doubt a decision of the Small Cause Court should not be *res judicata* in the High Court, but by this Section Small Cause Court decisions are not *res judicata* in the Small Cause Court. This is really one of the profoundest pieces of legal wisdom and legislative intelligence, as displayed in the modern system of legislating by illustrations, which we have ever met with.

In Section 40 we have a piece of Hibernian legislation which may answer very well in Ireland, but is not on that account good for India. There is a good deal of special legislation for Ireland, which we do not want here. Under this Irish Section whenever a man loses his case in the Small Cause Court he may rush off to the High Court, and there make an *ex parte* statement of the injustice, which he has just received in the Small Cause Court, and thereupon the High Court may call up the case and try it. Such a law may be necessary in a country where Judges and Magistrates share the same fate as landlords, and where decisions are sometimes given under threats and fear of a bullet on the way home, but fortunately things have not yet come to that pass here. If there is not to be a regular appeal, as we think there ought to be, in all cases above 1,000 rupees, if not 500 rupees, the High Court should have concurrent jurisdiction with the Small Cause Court in cases above 1,000 rupees. This is a most mischievous Section under which a successful party in the Small Cause Court might be put to a great deal of trouble and cost in the High Court and the value of his Small Cause Court judgment might be altogether lost even if he were eventually successful in the High Court. We object therefore to this Section.

Section 27 is another very good Section, for the High Court Advocates and Vakeels, and even all the Attorneys are not to have a share in the pie ! Only the Vakeel-Attorneys are to be allowed to practise in suits above 1,000 rupees and the First Grade Pleaders and Small Cause Court Pleaders are left outside for the five rupee cases ! The Small Cause Court Pleaders may not be a very learned body, but they are all respectable men, and some of them are well qualified by their long acquaintance with the practice of the Court to conduct even intricate cases. Are the landlords, merchants and tradesmen to be obliged to bring down an Advocate or a Vakeel and an Attorney or Pleader to instruct the former to prove service of summous and get an *ex parte* decree or oppose an application for instalments in all cases above 1,000 rupees ? And what have the District Court Pleaders done that they shall not partake of the Small Cause Court loaves and fishes ? They may practise in all cases, criminal, civil and revenue in the Mofussil Courts, conduct cases for any amount that go to the High Court and Privy Council, but they are not to be allowed to conduct a Small Cause Court case over 1,000 rupees ! Is the Law of the Small Cause Court an unknown Science only understood by a few highly trained experts ? This is really very absurd, and we cannot understand how sensible and practical men could have framed such a section. Why cannot a man be allowed to select his own lawyer as he would his own doctor. When a man takes his degree and is permitted to practise as a Doctor or Lawyer, what right have the legislature to step in and say he shall take only certain cases ? A surgeon is not to be allowed to take a midwifery case or any Attorney or Pleader below a Vakeel a Small Cause Court case. And what about the patients and clients ? Have they always the means to employ only M. D's and Advocates whether they like it or not ?

This is one of the most wonderful Bills we have seen for a long time, indeed we may say we have ever seen. Has it been purposely made ridiculous ? If that be the object it has been well attained, but as a serious piece of legislation it is simply ridiculous. What will the Secretary of State and the House of Commons think of it ? We cannot believe that they wil allow such a Bill to be passed. It will be much better to leave the Courts alone than to pass such a Lawyers' Act as this.

THE CASE OF MAHOMED HYAT KHAN.

THIS case is still *sub-judice* ; we will not therefore make any comments upon it. But we do not think we are overstepping the bounds of propriety, if we make some remarks upon the mode of trial held, the nature of the charges preferred, and the position of the accused. The written statement submitted by him to the Sessions Judge of Peshwar published by the *Indian Herald* affords abundant materials for a consideration of these points. In the first place it has not been an open trial. The proceedings have been held in secret chamber. This is much to be regretted. For when an officer was arraigned on such serious charges, he ought to have been allowed the common privilege of an open trial. The evidence taken would have been then published, and the public would have been in a position to judge its character. In the second place the accused was denied the benefit of counsel's aid, advice, and advocacy, In his statement he says : " The Government has thought it desirable that I should not be permitted to enjoy the benefit of Counsel in conducting my defence, nor have I even been permitted to have the assistance of any one to aid me in taking down a memo. of the evidence adduced against me. The result has been that I have not only had to make notes of evidence myself while the witnesses were being examined, but to cross-examine the witnesses also myself, without time for reflection or the skill necessary to test the truthfulness of their evidence by a searching and well directed cross-examination. That I may not have succeeded therefore in deriving all the benefit from this great privilege, which is the only safeguard which an accused person can depend upon against pre-arranged evidence, is not surprising, especially when it is recollected that a man who, after 25 years of loyal and devoted service to the Government whose salt he has eaten, in which he has on more than one occasion risked his life, and in which he has risen to a post which few of his countrymen can hope to obtain, is suddenly suspended from his appointment and called upon to confront a host of accusers who are all known to be his professed enemies, is not unlikely to have his mind unstrung so as to be unable to exercise that calm and dispassionate judgment which can alone enable one to conduct a cross-examination with any chance of its being effective. On the other hand the prosecution has had the advantage, if not of professional advice, at least of the material assistance, both before and during the present inquiry, of such men as Mr. A. Cunningham, Raja Jehandad Khan, Golam Muhaieddin (Extra Assistant Commissioner), Ibrahim Khan, Assistant District Superintendent of of Police, and during the last stage of the case of Mr. Walker, C. S." Mahomed Hyat Khan is quite right. It was most unfair to deprive him of counsel's assistance. Even the meanest felon is not denied this privilege. Why this extraordinary step was taken in his case is simply incomprehensible. There have been many cases in which public officers have been put on trial like Hyat Khan, but they have been invariably allowed professional assistance. Hyat was certainly placed under a cruel disadvantage by the unusual course followed in his case. It should have been remembered who his enemies were and under what circumstances the charges had been preferred against him. He says : " The position I had the honor to hold at Cabul was such that it necessarily aroused against me the hatred and enmity of a large class of influential Afghans. It was, as I then thought, my good fortune, or as perhaps with reference to the present turn of affairs I might now more properly say my misfortune, to be selected by Government to act as a Member of the Political Commission appointed to inquire into, and report on the causes which led to the massacre of the Cabul Embassy, and of the persons who were implicated in it. That Commission had specially to investigate into the part which the ex-Amir Yakub Khan, Mustaufi Habibulla, Sirdar Yahya Khan and Wazir Shah Muhammad Khan had taken in the events which ended in the massacre of Sir Louis Cavagnari, and the result of our investigations is well known to Government. These men were deported to India, and, rightly or wrongly, it was felt throughout Cabul, that I was the person who was mainly instrumental in unravelling the web of complicated evidence with which the Commission had to deal. I had to collect the evidence. It was through me that questions were usually put to witnesses and others. It was to me, therefore, that the men I have named and their adherents mainly attributed their downfall, and I thus became the object of their bitterest enmity,—a feeling not unnaturally intensified in their minds by the fact of my being a Muhammadan who had disregarded the ties of a common religion in the service of a Christian State. So long as I was on the spot and able to refute any calumnious aspersion on my character, my enemies were silent. But as soon as my back was turned, the opportunity was readily seized to blacken a reputation that had stood unsullied during 25 years of meritorious service, and to wreak that spirit of revenge upon me which is so characteristic of a race who are well described by Talboys Wheeler, as " blood-thirsty, deceitful and depraved : ready to sell their country, their honor and their very souls for lucre :" a race who are " without a sting of remorse, or a sense of shame." It is to that race, Sir, my present accusers belong, and it is the accusation of men who have for the most part but lately been tried by me, in association with two European Officers of rank, that I now find myself in the humiliating position of having to answer as an accused. My late colleagues in the Commission were Englishmen of conspicuous ability and distinguished rank. They could not be assailed with any hope of success by men of the stamp and antecedents of my present accusers. But I happened to be a native—a man whose past career was all that he could rely upon : without influence, without interest. To charge me with bribery, with exaction might be listened to, while the same charges if urged against my late colleagues would certainly be rejected with scorn. The opportunity was too tempting, and thus it is Sir, that I stand before you to-day to plead my cause as an ordinary accused person." Now, all these allegations could have been fairly tested if the accused had been allowed the benefit of counsel's aid. In the position in which he found himself, in the frame of mind in which he must have then been, and in the face of a powerful combination against him, he could not be expected to trust to his own judgment or to do justice to himself. Then again all the material witnesses were not produced in Court and subjected to examination. Thus with regard to a charge preferred by one

Saifeddin the accused in his statement says: "The only evidence adduced in support of this charge, if indeed it can be called such, is a statement by Saifeddin, recorded at Cabul in my absence by Mr. A. Cunningham; not recorded, it is to be observed, in consequence of any petition presented or complaint preferred by Saifeddin himself: but elicited in answer to question put to him by Mr. Cunningham. From whom Mr. Cunningham got the information which led to this examination has not been stated. Saifeddin has not been produced before you for examination, and I have thus had no opportunity of cross-questioning him, nor you, Sir, of judging of his demeanour and credibility." The same remarks apply to the next charge, preferred by one Khan Agha Jamshahdi. The accused says: "The next case I shall deal with is that brought forward by Khan Agha Jamshahdi. Here also, as in the last case, the prosecution rely upon statements recorded at Cabul behind my back, and my accusers are not confronted with me, nor have I had any opportunity of questioning them. The statements also, it should be noted, are mere translations made by Mr. Cunnigham from the notes of a previous examination made by Raja Jehandad Khan, whose unfriendly disposition towards me is no secret." We leave it to the reader to judge whether under the circumstances the mode of trial accorded to Moulvi Mahomed Hyat Khan was calculated to secure the ends of justice.

THE SHIBPORE ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

The order of the Director of Public Instruction are contained in the following letter from that officer to the Principal of the Shibpore Engineering College:

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memo No. 536 dated the 26th ultimo, forwarding a petition from 87 native students of the Engineering College in which they complain of the conduct of Mr. Fouracres, the Executive Engineer in charge of the workshops, in assulting and using violent language to one of their members, in which they pray to be relieved of his authority. I have also received a letter from Mr. Fouracres describing what really happened on the occasion.

It appears that on the 22nd ultimo, Srishchundra Lahiri, a student of the 2nd year engineering class, who was working in the carpenter's shop, left his bench without orders and going to the fitter's shop, where he had no right to be, proceeded to punch a hole in a piece of iron with one of the machine tools. The iron was too thick for the machine, the "bolster" or bottom-die of which was consequently broken, and some urgent work stopped for several days. When the matter was reported to Mr. Fouracres, he sent for the student and asked him what he meant by being "such an idiot" or "a such a fool" as to meddle with a machine that he knew nothing about. At this time Mr. Fouracres was under the impression that the student was working in the fitter's shop. On learning that he belonged to the carpenter's shop Mr. Fouracres followed him thither, took him by the arm or shoulder and brought him back to the fitter's shop—a few paces distant, where pointing to the broken machine he warned him emphatically in the presence of the other students never to touch it again without order and not to leave his proper work. At the same time Mr. Fouracres struck the bench with his stick.

This was the assault, and this the abuse and violence complained of. Mr. Fouracers stated he adopted the course he did, in order, firstly, to let the students understand publicly that they must not meddle with machines of the use of which they were ignorant, to the risk of life, limb and property; and secondly, to save Sirishchandra Lahiri from the dismissal or other serious punishment which would have resulted from formal complaint.

In submiting their petition the students of the College have entirely failed to understand the serious character of the offence of which Srishchandra Lahiri was guilty. For a similar act of disobedience and mischief the offender, whether workman or apprentice, would have been summarily turned out of any workshop in England. Irritated as Mr. Fouracres like any good workman must have been at the occurence, it is not surprising that he should speak in the sharpest language to one who had been guilty of an act of mischievous folly, and I am not inclined to take of the terms which Mr. Fouracres in his indignation used. In not reporting the offender with his habitual forbearence the alleged assault was of the most trivial kind; and the statement that Mr. Fouracres "struck the carpenter's bench several times with his stick" only brings out more clearly the true character of the complaint.

In claiming to be treated like gentlemen the students forget that they must first behave like men, while their present memorial is, in fact, a sorry exhibition of childish petulence and presumption. When they write about a most unprovoked assault committed upon one who was guilty of no offence whatever, and who received the unbearable assault to which he was subjected with calm dignity, and when they state that "the student throughout showed the utmost forbearance though his temper was put to the severest trial," these pretentious declamations would be merely ludicrous, did they not furnish so lamentable a proof that the writers are entire strangers to what is manly and becoming conduct.

There is a further side of this question. The only persons immediately concerned in the dispute are Mr. Fouracres and Srishchundra Lahiri; and if the latter, considerhimself aggrieved by Mr. Fouracres' treatment of him, had submitted a temprate representation on the subject, it would have been duly considered in connection with the original offence. But it is not to be tolerated that his fellow-students should take up his quarrel, should combine to frame a joint memorial in his interest, and considering themselves the judges in his cause, should demand their removal as a body from the control of one who has been placed in authority over them. Such a proceeding strikes at the root of all discipline. The students indeed allege that the insult offered to Srishchunder has been offered to the entire body of the native students of the College. This assertion has been sufficiently disposed of by what has preceded. The students again complain of the "harsh and unkind and sometimes even abusive language which he (Mr. Fouracres) is in the habit of using towards us." Mr. Fouracres' character and mode of dealing with the students, both European and native, too long and too favorably known to me—and I may add to successive Viceroys and Lieutenant-Governors through a series of years—to justify me in paying any attention to statements made in such general terms (and as I believe it to be) so groundless. Mr. Fouracres is above all things, a workman, trained in habits of obedience and discipline, accustomed to insist on good work, and firm in enforcing it. The discipline of a workship like that of a regiment, is different from the discipline of a class room; and there is no loss of dignity in yielding implicit obedience to the one or the other. Students working under Mr. Fouracres must expect orders promptly given to be promptly obeyed; and a sharp rebuke if they are carried in a negligent, inattentive, or dilatory way. These are the conditions which prevail in every good workshop in any country and in the absence of which no sound mechanical training is possible. And I believe it to be just this of which the students complain as a grievance. Their former petition on the same subject was not submitted to the Board of Visitors because as they truly state in their present memorial, its tone was thought to be objectionable and the language employed was not deemed to be sufficiently respectful. But in the present connection it is not the tone or the language which is the most serious matter, but rather the entire inability of the students to understaud the conditions which will enable them to become good workmen and succeed in the profession which they have chosen. To have the opportunity, of learning their business under an engineer of Mr. Fouracres' skill and experience is a privilege of which the students will, it is to be hoped, learn in time the value. To show themselves so sensitive on immaterial points and so careless of the main object of their education, to clamour of being gentlemen when they are behaving like unruly school-boys, is only to show their folly and ingratitude.

To have signed the memorial is an offence against discipline of a very serious kind. Seven students have, I am glad to see, since withdrawn their names and no further action will be taken in their case. They state that in attaching their signature to the memorial they were "misinformed as to the facts of the case," and they add they were never unjustly or harshly treated by Mr. Fouracres. This is quite sufficient to show that the memorial is the result of an unscruplous agitation and that it does not express the gennine feelings of those who have signed it; should there be any, however, who after sufficient opportunity for reflection persist in the attitude they have taken up, I can only regard them as foolish and insubordinate youths whom it is not desirable to retain as members of the College. You are, therefore, requested to make these orders known to the students and to inform them that those who shall not, within three days, have asked permission to withdraw their names from the memorial with such expressions of contrition as you may judge to be sufficient will be removed from the College. Upon all those who withdraw their names (with sufficient apology a nominal fine of Rs. 2 will be inflicted in order to mark my opinion about their conduct. Many of them have doubtless been led away by the examples of others, and no severe punishment is called for with regard to the general body of students. If any further orders are necessary with regard to scholarship-holders and apprentices, they will be issued hereafter.

Srishchundra Lahiri has made no attempt to atone for his original offence, and he has aggravated it by joining the other students in signing the memorial. Mr. Fouracres states that this is not the first instance of valuable property having been damaged whether maliciously or (as in the present case) by want of a culpable recklessness. Offences of this kind must be firmly repressed Srishchandra's name will, therefore, be removed from the books of the College.

I have
Sd. A. W. Croft
Director of P. Instruction.

We should be the last persons to encourage breach of discipline in any way. A mutinous spirit among the students of an educational institution should certainly be put down with a high hand. Although we do not hold that the students of the Shibpore Engineering College were actually guilty of mutiny, still on the abstract principle of discipline we are quite willing to support Mr. Croft's orders. We had expected that the students would unhesitatingly render submission to the orders of the Director, but we are sorry to hear that they have not done so. Three conditions were prescribed for submission—withdrawal of their names from the petition, a suitable apology to Mr. Fouracres, and a nominal fine of Rs. 2 each. As students they ought to have obeyed the orders of their chief, whether those orders were right or wrong. When he commanded them to withdraw their names from the petition, it would have been no degradation to them to have done so. As for an apology to Mr. Fouracres it is no indignity to a student to make an apology to a teacher, though the latter may be in the wrong. According to Hindu notions a teacher stands in the position of father, and what son will consider himself degraded by making an apology to his father, though he may not admit the justice of such an apology? With regard to fine the same remarks apply. In the interest of discipline we are of opinion that the students should have conformed to the orders of the Director. If they thought that by placing themselves again under the authority of Mr. Fouracres they would be courting harsher treatment, they were greatly mistaken. The demonstration must have had a wholesome effect upon him. He must have in his cooler moments felt that as a teacher he has missed the reward which one in his position, possessed of proper feeling, naturally covets, *viz.* the respect and affection of his pupils. However justifiable he might think his own conduct he could not ignore the fact that his students were *en masse* dissatisfied with him, and could he for a moment believe that there was so much smoke without fire?

We have said above that for the sake of discipline the students should have made a prompt submission to the orders of the Director. But this does not imply that we subscribe to the justice of the decision of the Director. In the first place we do not think that the students have been actually guilty of insubordination by petitioning the Director on the subject. If they had refused to be under the tuition of Mr. Fouracres and discontinued to attend the workshop, they would have rendered themselves amenable to that charge. But instead of doing any thing of the kind they submitted a temperate and respectful memorial to the Director, representing what they considered a just grievance. They did not combine to resist the authority of Mr. Fouracres—they adopted the constitutional mode of making a joint memorial to the highest constituted authority of their department. Surely in doing this they did not transgress discipline. Surely the Director does not hold that the students have not the common right of petition to the constituted authorities. The students might have been mistaken in their view of the conduct of Mr. Fouracres, they might have been too sensitive, even foolish, and the Director might have corrected them on this point without charging them with insubordination or threatening them with expulsion. Then, again, the Director substantially admits the facts set forth in the petition of the students. He admits that Mr. Fouracres did commit an assault upon student Srishchunder Lahiri, though he does not accept the version of the students; he says that he (Mr. Fouracres) "took by the arm or shoulder and brought him back to the fitter's shop, a few paces distant." Admitting for argument's sake that this was the case, and nothing more, which we do not of course admit, we must say that Bengali boys are unaccustomed to this sort of treatment in schools and colleges, and the students naturally considered it an indignity to which sons of gentlemen ought not to be subjected. But the Director remarks, "the disclpline of a workshop like that of a regiment is different from the discipline of a class room." This may be so, but Bengali students had not hitherto had experience of "mechanical training" of the sort mentioned. They are just learning it, and in order to train them in habits of obedience to the rigorous discipline of the workshop they ought to be gradually led into them by judicious instruction and conciliation. To force them into obedience by a display of convulsive fits of temper is surely not the right way of proceeding. In the next place the Director says that if the students wish to be treated as gentlemen they should first behave as men—they have been wanting in manliness, and so they have been treated in the manner complained of. But we do not see how they have been wanting in manliness. We are disposed to think that by submitting a respectful memorial instead of doing any act of violence they showed a spirit of manliness beyond their years. The gravamen of the charge of the Director against

the students is that they made a common cause with the offender Shrishchunder Lahiri. If the latter had made a petition for himself, the Director would have considered it, but he cannot tolerate a joint memorial in a matter of this kind. But the students have given their reasons for united representation. They state that they are habitually ill-treated by Mr. Fouracres, that they had once before made a representation to the Board of Visitors, which the Principal had refused to send in because of its improper tone and language, and that as the worst came to the worst they thought it necessary to submit the present memorial, to the tone or language of which the Director takes no exception. Whether the allegations of the students were correct or not the Director should have made a careful and searching enquiry into the matter. He ought to have remembered that this was not the first time complaints had been made by the students against Mr. Fouracres. They complained of his interference with them beyond College hours, and the Board of Visitors met this complaint by practically charging the Native Doctor with the superintence of their boarding. We are told that so long as Mr. Downing was in the College the students were protected under his wings, but that the present Principal has not the same sympathy with them, and that hence things have drifted to the present pass. Be that as it may we submit the Director should have enquired into the allegations contained in the petition. Instead of doing any thing of the kind he says: "The students again complain of the "harsh and unkind and sometimes even abusive language which he (Mr. Fouracres) is in the habit of using towards us." Mr. Fouracres' character and mode of dealing with the students, both European and native, too long and too favorably known to me—and I may add to successive Viceroys and Lieutenant-Governors through a series of years—to justify me in paying any attention to the statements made in such general terms (and as I believe it to be) so groundless." With due deference we submit that neither the Viceroy nor the Lieutenant-Governor, nor the Director could know how Mr. Fouracres has been behaving with the present students, that could be ascertained only by personal enquiry, but the Director has refused to make such an enquiry. On the contrary he has come down upon the students in sledge-hammer style for making the complaint. This we do not hesitate to say does not show that judicial spirit, which we had a right to expect from the head of the education department.

In conclusion we regret much the turn which this affair has taken. While we do not agree with the Director in the view of the case he has taken, we hold that as a matter of discipline the students ought to have conformed to his orders. We hope it is not yet too late for them to retrace their steps. The Director ought also to consider the serious position of things. If the students leave the College *en masse*, it will be practically abolished, and such a result on national grounds would be most deplorable. Sir Ashley Eden has started a most important experiment in order to give to the educated youth of Bengal practical education, and we do hope that he will not allow it to be nipped in the bud from want of sympathy on the part of the educational authorities with the feelings or failings of the students.

THE CENTRAL ASIAN PAPERS.

THE recently published diplomatic correspondence respecting affairs in Central Asia narrates the course of events since the end of 1879, when the expedition against the Tekke Turcomans was planned at St. Petersburgh. It shews the value of Russian promises and protestations. The greater part of the correspondence consists of despatches from Lord Dufferin describing general Skobeleff's operations against the Turcomans. An analysis of these important papers cannot, we think, fail to interest the reader.

On the last day of 1879 Lord Dufferin reports that he had a long conversation with M. de Giers, the Russian Foreign Minister, who, of his own accord, touched upon the Central Asian question, and admitted that preparations were on foot for a large expedition against the Tekke Turcomans directed from two bases of operations, namely, Tchekisler and Samarcand.

A week afterwards in a conversation with Colonel Villiers, the British Military *Attache* at St. Petersburgh, General Milintine, the Russian Minister of War, stated that, though some troops had been concentrated during the summer on the southern frontier of Russian Turkestan, with the view of distracting the attention of the Tekkes, there never has been a question of despatching a force from the north to co-operate with General Skobeleff. The statements of M. de Giers, and of General Milintine, it will be observed, involve a direct contradiction as to the plan for attacking the Turkomans in two directions. In August 1880, M. de Giers concluded a conversation with Lord Dufferin by denying in the most emphatic terms "that Merv was the ultimate object of the expedition." On January 26th, Lord Dufferin writes that in announcing to him the news of the capture of Geok Tepe and Dengal Tepe, M. de Giers observed that now that the power of the Tekke Turcomans had been completely broken, the time had come for Russia to shew moderation and to take care not to allow itself to be entangled in further military operations in that quarter of the world. Lord Dufferin continues:—

I asked his Excellency whether I might repeat this observation to your lordship. His Excellency replied that I might do so as his personal opinion; but, the news having only just arrived, he had seen nobody, and, of course, was not in a position to make any official declaration as to the course which the Russian Government might subsequently pursue. I have little doubt, however, that, as far as the official world of St. Petersburgh is concerned, from the Emperor downwards, there is a desire to circumscribe General Skobeleff's military operations, and that the Minister of War himself is disposed to acquiesce in a pacific line of conduct. A very significant protest against military expenditure was introduced into M. Abaza's budget memorandum; and I am convinced that the influence of the Minister of Finance, as well as that of M. de Giers, will be exercised in favour of a moderate policy. The course of events, however, is very much in General Skobeleff's hands; for a commander-in-chief, at so great a distance from the seat of government, is always in a position to prove that military considerations have necessitated whatever line of conduct he may choose to adopt. A great deal must also depend on the attitude assumed by the defeated Turcomans. But, making every allowance for these uncertain contingencies, I am disposed to think that the circuit of Russian military operations in Turkestan will not be further extended."

Subsequent events showed that Lord Dufferin was quite right when he said that General Skobeleff would be allowed to do as he thought fit. A conversation which His Lordship had with General Milintine left on his mind the impression that General Skobeleff would possibly advance on Askabad. Nine days afterwards Lord Dufferin reports that the General has occupied Askabad with a flying column, and Anan, with a cavalry detachment, Anan, according to His Lordship, "may be looked upon as the furthest point eastward of the Tekke Turcoman country." Then the possibility of Russian troops being obliged to push on as far as Merv is clearly stated. In the beginning of February last, Prince Lobunoff, the Russian Ambassador in London, showed Lord Granville a despatch from his Government written in April 1880. The despatch, we are told, "stated that in the opinion of the Russian Government, the importance of Merv had been much exaggerated; that they could not pledge themselves as to the exact limits within which their military operations would be confined; that they had no desire to push them as far as Merv, but if they found themselves compelled to do so, they certainly did not contemplate a permanent occupation, and would withdraw as soon as possible." This despatch having been referred to Lord Dufferin, His Lordship wrote: "It may be proper to observe that I consider the positive assurance given to me personally by the Emperor of Russia himself (as reported in my despatch of the 13th August 1879, and commented upon in my subsequent despatch of the 26th August of the same year), to the effect that there was no intention on the part of Russia of advancing to Merv as still extant and in full force, and as never having been withdrawn by His Majesty himself or any of his Ministers." The next letter from Lord Dufferin is dated March 8, 1881, and it is certainly the most important document among the papers now published. M. de Giers, in a conversation with Lord Dufferin informed His Lordship that "the report circulated by the *Times of India* to the effect, that the Russian authorities in Central Asia had come to an understanding with the Turcomans of Merv, and were about to occupy that locality, was a pure invention." The Russian Foreign Minister, however, mentioned "that two Russian subjects had been recently murdered by the Merv Turcomans, that English intrigues at Merv had complicated the situation, and that it was becoming uncertain what would have to be done." This hint was sufficient for Lord Dufferin. "In reply," writes His Lordship, "I said I trusted these observations were not intended to pave the way for an announcement that General Skobeleff was about to march upon Merv, as such a communication would be in direct contradiction to all the assurances which, during the last two years, not only he himself, but the Emperor, had authorized me to transmit to the British Government." Lord Dufferin goes on to say:

M. de Giers remarked that these assurances merely consisted in the statement that the Russian Government, at the time they were given, had no intention of going to Merv. I answered that, although the word 'intention' was undoubtedly to be found in some of the phrases made use of, the general purport of my repeated conversations with himself and with General Milintine amounted to a serious, bona fide, and unambiguous declaration on the part of the Russian Government that Merv was not to be attacked. Moreover, I added, when the Emperor deigned on two occasions to give me similar assurances, His Majesty made use of the most unequivocal language, and an intimation of this kind, proceeding from so august a source, possessed a direct and abiding force which of necessity endured until it was formally retracted. Fortified by these considerations, and impressed by the sincerity and earnestness of his Excellency's repeated asseverations upon this point, I had led my Government to consider the matter as having been placed beyond doubt, and I hardly saw in what language I could convey to your lordship any intimation to a contrary effect. At all events, if the announcements which had been so frequently made to me, and which I had been requested to repeat to London, were to be annulled, I should expect the fact to be conveyed to me, not by hints and doubtful innuendoes, but in terms absolutely clear and explicit. On this his Excellency reasserted his anxious desire to make the Russian policy in Central Asia conform to the programme he had described to me as the one which recommended itself to its own judgment.

The Emperor was referred to, and M. de Giers again assured Lord Dufferin that there was no question of an advance upon Merv. "Not only we do not want to go there," said M. de Giers, "but happily there is nothing which can require us to go there." But, the Russian Foreign Minister added, "the Emperor trusts that you, upon your part will render a policy of abstention and moderation possible to us by not permitting English officers to haunt the oases and stir up the Turcoman population against us." The significance of this remark is obvious. If English officers like Major Butler make their way to Merv and teach the Turcomans how to fight the Russians, the latter will not fail to advance upon that place and occupy it permanently.

The papers we have analyzed clearly demonstrate that no reliance is to be placed on the Russian protestations, and that their occupation of Merv is merely a question of time. We are told that the return of General Skobeleff from Central Asia is generally regarded as an indication that the campaign in the Tekke Turcoman country is concluded and that his successor has received strict instructions to direct all his energies to the pacification of the country. But, nevertheless, it is our firm belief that we shall rise one fine morning to hear that the Russians have occupied Merv. The Muscovite is simply doing in Central Asia what John Bull has done in India. As the London *Times* very sensibly put the case sometime ago:—"If we want to hold any thing we must hold it by our own strength and not by demanding that another power shall abstain from touching the rich prize that lies within its reach." It is, therefore, useless to expect that advance of Russia in Central Asia can be materially checked by subjecting her Ministers constantly to cross-questioning as to their intentions. England and Russia should come to a clear understanding about Central Asia, and the latter should be told in plain terms that any interference on her part with the affairs of Afghanistan will be followed by a declaration of war against her.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

A TERRIFIC nor-wester swept over Calcutta on last Tuesday night at about 8-30 P. M. It was attended with thunder-storm and a tre-

mendous downpour. It made the greatest havoc among trees and tiled huts. The maidan sustained the greatest injury. The street avenues of trees and the squares were also much damaged. The shipping and boats also suffered much, but no damage was done to the Hooghly Bridge. The Northern division of the Town comparatively suffered less than the Southern division. The gale extended to the environs of the town, and caused much damage to the mango crop. Happily no loss of life is reported.

THE ENGLISH PAPERS brought in by the last English mail are replete with notices of the death of Lord Beaconsfield. All parties equally lament the sad event as a national calamity. The continental courts and papers also unite in condoling with England on the sad loss which she has sustained. Death is a great leveller; it silences passions and prejudices, and the unanimity of feeling which this melancholy event has evoked is no less a compliment to the departed genius than a proof of the adage that the whole world is akin.

THE EXPERIMENT of holding the criminal sessions of the High Court, original side, under the presidency of Civilian Judges, we may say, has proved successful. Both Justices Prinsep and Tottenham, who presided at the last two sessions, have done well. The criminal law and procedure applicable to the High Court and Mofussil Courts being now the same, we do not think the Civilian Judges need feel any difficulty in administering them.

IT AFFORDS us great pleasure to announce that a rare honor has been conferred upon our distinguished countryman Raja Shourendramohun Tagore, Music Doctor, C. I. E. His Imperial Majesty of China has bestowed upon him the insignia of the Chinese 1st class Order of the Precious Star. The following is a copy of the diploma, which has been forwarded to the Raja:

DIPLOMA.

Chinese Empire.
Imperial Order of the Precious Star.

The Emperor of China being desirous of giving a proof of his Imperial satisfaction to His Highness the Rajah Sourindro Mohun Tagore born at Calcutta, confers upon him The Order of the Precious Star of the first class, this 18th March 1881.

Seen and Sealed and registered.

(Sd) TSENG.

Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of China at Paris, London and St. Petersburgh.

China is the most conservative country in the world. From his proud pre-eminence the Celestial Emperor looks down upon all persons beyond his domain as outside barbarians. Raja Shourendramohun Tagore has therefore achieved no small honor when he has received such a gracious recognition of his talents, abilities, and services to the cause of music and musical literature from such an august personage. He has not only earned the honor for himself, but also for his country, for never before was an Indian so honored and never before we believe did the literary fame of Bengal penetrate the walls of China. We also learn that the Raja has just received a diploma of Chevalier Correspondent of the Academy, Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. May the Raja live long and enjoy the honors which have come to him from almost every civilized country in the world is our earnest prayer!

AS WE announced last week the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science held its fifth annual meeting on Friday last, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra presiding. The annual report of the Committee was read and adopted and the accounts were passed. The office-bearers and the Committee of Management for the current year were next elected. A Resolution was then passed authorizing the election of lecturers for three consecutive years as honorary life-members, also another constituting the Trustees of the Funds of the Association to be Trustees of the house which the Association has resolved to purchase from Government. After the conclusion of the business of the annual meeting, prizes, medals and scholarships were distributed to students, who had attended the lectures, and passed successfully the annual examinations. The Chairman then delivered an address reviewing the work of the Association and combating vigorously and eloquently the theory that knowledge should be pursued for its own sake, shewing that it had no practical application in any country. Rev. Father Lafont followed up, saying that the proposition laid down by the Chairman was generally true, though there might be exceptions here and there. The Reverend gentleman then corrected the impression which seemed to be entertained in certain quarters that because the majority of the audience at the lectures were students, therefore the Association was an educational institution. He said that the Association was a scientific institute, and that the object of the lectures was to present to the Association the latest researches in science. The meeting then broke up.

WE OBSERVE that the town of Pooree has been declared a first class Municipality. The inhabitants of the town are much alarmed by the prospect of taxation before them and ask our co-operation in obtaining relief. We are afraid it is too late for them Under the Mofussil Municipal Act before a town is declared a first class Municipality a notification is issued for six weeks in order to give the inhabitants an opportunity to express their opinions and views. The notification referred to was issued in the usual way at Pooree, but no notice was taken of it in time. The inhabitants now complain that they are too poor to bear the burden of municipal taxation of a first class town. We fully sympathize with them, but we do not see how can they legally escape the burden unless the Government in its wisdom and benevolence should choose to reconsider the matter. We would advise them to petition Government and to lay their whole case before it. If the Government be satisfied that they are really unable to bear the taxation of a first class town, it may grant the relief sought for.

THE FOLLOWING Resolutions have been passed by the Town Council of the Calcutta Corporation regarding preaching in public squares:

The Chairman then proposed the following Resolutions which were seconded by the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal and carried:—

That with reference to the orders of the Commissioner of Police No. 63 referring persons wishing to preach in squares under the control of the Corporation to the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta for permission to use the squares for this purpose, it be resolved—

(1) To institute enquiries in order to ascertain whether a similar question has arisen in Bombay and other large towns in India, and if so, what restrictions it has been found necessary to impose there?

(2) To enquire whether the difficulty has previously arisen on any occasion in Calcutta, and if so, what orders were then passed?

(3) To enquire whether the residents and other people who use the squares for recreation are inconvenienced by their being used for preaching, and to obtain the views of the Standing Committees for the Improvent of Squares and of the Commissioners of the Ward in which each square is situated on this question.

(4) Pending full consideration of the question, after receipt of the above information, that the Chairman be authorised to grant permission to all who apply for it without distinction of religion or denomination to preach in Wellington Square or any other square which is not laid out as a garden, so far as such permission can be granted without risk of inconvenience to the public.

(5) As regards the squares, such as Beadon Square which are laid out as gardens, as it has been stated that the plants and flower-beds have in some cases been injured by the concourse of persons listening to the preachers, the Chairman be requested to enquire into this matter and report the result of such enquiry at an early date.

(6) Pending however the result of this enquiry and the orders that may be passed thereon, the Chairman should grant permission for the use of these squares also for preaching as in Resolution 4.

These Resolutions are simply a compromise. We for one hold that the squares are maintained for public health and recreation, and they ought not to be allowed to be used for public preaching or open-air meetings. In England squares are private property and no preaching is allowed there. Public parks are we believe open to the public for meeting and preaching, but these parks are like our maidan, where crowding in a corner for preaching does not incommode the public. The same license may be given with regard to our maidan. But if the missionaries insist upon preaching at the squares, we think a distinction ought to be drawn between squares, which are open spaces, and those, which are laid out as gardens. These gardens are maintained at a considerable outlay, and they are liable to be seriously damaged by crowds, which collect at preaching. For the preservation of order Mr. Harrison, the present Chairman of the Corporation, proposes that permission should be previously obtained from him for the use of a square for preaching. We think this is very necessary for the preservation of order. Rival preaching is the fashion of the day, and who knows that rivalry of this sort may not some day culminate in something mischievous and serious. Those who are responsible for the preservation of peace and order are bound to see to this. The Missionaries contend that they owe no allegiance to any earthly power in the dissemination of the Word of God. But when they themselves preach peace and good-will towards men, they ought themselves to conform to laws and rules the object of which is to secure peace, order and good will. The Missionaries have now taken to street processions, and for every procession they have to take the permission of the Commissioner of Police. And if it does not conflict with their consciences to take permission for street processions, why should it do so in the case of preaching at squares?

AT THE last meeting of the Asiatic Society Dr. Rajendralala Mitra broached a new theory. The belief among comparative mythologists during the last thirty years has been that the story of Cerberus was a solar myth—Cerberus representing the darkness of early morn and evening. The Doctor declines to accept this solution. According to the Vedic and Greek legends Cerberus, the dark monster, is the son of Dawn, and the Doctor asks how can darkness proceed from light? and why should Dawn, which is associated with every thing that is gorgeous and resplendent, be the mother of two ugly puppies? His idea is that in primitive times the usual mode of disposing of the dead was by flinging the corpse to dogs. This practice, according to Herodotus, Strabo, Justin and others, prevailed among the Persians, the Sogdians, the Hyrcanians and other central Asiatic Aryan races from two to three thousand years ago. It still prevails among the Tibetans and Northern Mongolians, and, he says, it must have been current among the primitive Aryans, and the memory of it is preserved in the myth by making the dog stand at the entrance to our passage from life to death. Following up the theory he interprets the story of Orpheus rescuing his bride Eurydika and Dionisus recovering his mother Semele, to mean ineffectual attempts at putting a stop to the hateful practice. The haling of Cerberus by Hercules he looks upon as the myth of the stoppage of the practice among ancient Aryans. The idea is ingenious, and appears very natural on the face of it; but we should be glad to know what the meteorological mythologists have to say on the subject.

WE DO NOT quite see the justice of the complaint of our contemporary of the *Urdu Guide* that Sir Ashley Eden has not been friendly to the Subordinate Executive Service. As far as we can judge they have ample reasons to be grateful to the present Lieutenant Governor. We have taken some pains to ascertain what he has done for this branch of the service during his administration, and the following statement, which we have compiled from the Civil lists of April 1877 and April 1881, gives the necessary information on the subject:

GRADE.	PAY.	No of appointments in April 1877.	No. of appointments in April 1881.	Increased No. of appointments.	Value of new appointments.
					Rs.
1st	800	3	5	2	1600
2nd	700	10	11	1	700
3rd	600	18	20	2	1200
4th	500	30	34	4	2000
5th	400	45	50	5	2000
6th	300	50	55	5	1500
7th	200	43	49	6	1200
		199	224	25	10200 per month.

There has thus been an increase of twenty-five in the number of substantive appointments, the new appointments being spread among the different grades from the highest to the lowest and having an aggregate value of Rs. 10,200 per month or Rs. 1,22,400] (nearly a lakh and a quarter) per annum. In addition to this, six appointments have been added to the acting grade of Deputy Collectors, or in other words six more officiating Deputy Collectors can now be appointed than there are vacancies for owing to the deputation and leave of senior officers. Of course we do not go with His Honor in the reduction of the minimum pay of the subordinate executive service from Rs. 200 to Rs. 150 per month, but the evil effect of the change we must confess has been minimized by the fact that every officer who has passed his examinations has been at once promoted to the permanent grade on Rs. 200 per month.

The Subordinate Executive Service has also quite recently gained another great boon by the introduction of a new rule—that temporary promotion on full pay may be given in the room of members of the service deputed to the different branches of the Public Works Department. As there are always many Deputy Collectors engaged in the acquisition of lands and other duties in connection with public works the new rule really gives a number of practically permanent steps in the service. The very last number of the *Calcutta Gazette* shows ten such steps.

During the period in which these additions and benefits have been secured to the Subordinate Executive Service there has we see from the Civil lists been a reduction of thirteen in the number of covenanted civilians. If we exclude the three native Civilians appointed in India we find that there has been a reduction of sixteen in the number of Covenanted Civilians appointed in England. This is a positive gain to the Unconvenanted Service.

So much for the benefits actually conferred on the Subordinate Executive Service by Sir Ashley Eden during his four years' rule. As for the desirableness of the promotion of picked men from the Uncovenanted Service to the Covenanted Service, that is a matter which rests with the Governor General in Council and the Secretary of State. The local Government cannot interfere with the rules for appointment to the Civil Service, but as a matter of fact of the three gentlemen appointed under the rules in Bengal, one was a member of the Subordinate Executive Service and another a member of the Educational Service with a specially distinguished collegiate career.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN INFANTILE WASTING AND DEBILITY OF CHILDREN.—Thomas Hunt, Esq., late Medical Officer of Health, St. Giles's and Bloomsbury, writes :—" In badly nourished infants, Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is invaluable. The rapidity with which two or three teaspoonfuls a day will fatten a young child is astonishing. The weight gained is three times the weight of the Oil swallowed, or more ; and, as children generally like the taste of Dr. de Jongh's Oil, and when it is given them, often cry for more, it appears as though there were some prospect of deliveranee for the appalling multitude of children who figure in the weekly bills of mortality issued from the office of the Registrar-General." Dr. R. C. Croft, Author of "Handbook for the Nursery" writes : " Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is almost a specific in many of the Diseases peculiar to Infancy and Childhood, and I have seen marked benefit produced by its use. Patients prefer it to the Pale Oils, and are able to retain it more comfortably," Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah, Street, Calcutta.

☞ Beware of other worthless imitations.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 14th May, 1881.

During the week there has hardly been any interesting movement in our commercial markets save the open sale of tea for the season 1881, the reduction of interest by the Bank of Bengal and a better feeling for piece-goods which are all fairly depicted under their legitimates headings.

Import.—Piece goods during the week met with better attention owing to a demand from the districts of Patna and Bhaugulpore which led to some transactions, chiefly in grey kinds. White and coloured goods have also changed hands for local and up-country requirements, but on the basis of concession a system which has been gaining ground and ere long will be established on a permanent footing if importers would continue to make such sales.

Yarns.—This market in consequence of the annual puja and festivity of the Twist Dealers has been closed since the 11th Instant.

Exports.—The first public sale of Tea for the year 1881 was held on the 11th Instant when 2814 chests were offered and only 2605 chests found buyers. There was a good attendance and brisk biddings; prices for good and fine qualities may be quoted two annas above the opening rates of the last season, whilst inferior and ordinary qualities found buyers at rates lower.

Oil-Seeds.—Lin-seed, a fair amount of business done at about previous rates, Rape and Poppy, limited transactions.

Jute.—Nothing of interest has transpired during the week.

Rice.—About 35000 bags of 2 Mds. each found buyers of following qualities at the rates quoted below :

Table-gross	...	2 6	@	2-10
Ballam	...	1-12	to	2-1-6
Raree	...	1-10	to	1-14
Kajla	...	1 7	to	1-9
Kheearee	..	1-8	to	1 13

Prices have a rising tendency.

MONETARY.

The Bank of Bengal at the meeting of its directors held on the 12th instant reduced one per cent. all round in the rates of discount and interest. The minimum rate at present is 5 per cent. for loans on deposit of Government Securities.

GOVT. SECURITIES

Have been in an unsettled position and prices after fluctuating much were at the close as follows :

4%	...	..	102-9	to 102-10
4½	...	...	110-2	

JOINT-STOCK Co's.

This market has been very quiet and nothing of importance has transpired.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Hon'ble Raja Goodanarain Guzputtee Rao Bahadoor, Madras	13	0	0
A. S. Raghavachari Esq, Bangalore	13	4	0
C. H. Ramanah Naido Esq., ChandniChuck Cuttack	6	10	0
M. Krishna Iyengar Esq., Mercara	3	6	0
Baboo Poornochunder Mittra, Muzufferpore	6	8	0
,, Bholanath Dass, Sylhet	13	4	0
,, Bepinbehary Mookerji, Kandi	10	0	0
,, Herombonath Banerji Chowdry, Kachadia	10	0	0
,, Gopalchunder Burmoh, Gowhatty	13	4	0
,, Nobokissen Mookerji, Tezpore	6	4	0
,, Woomachurn Bose, Banka	13	4	0
,, Prosunocoomar Dutt, Dacca	6	10	0
,, Woomachurn Banerji, Burtna	6	10	0
,, Dhoomamull, Phagwara	13	4	0
,, Bhogobattychurn Mookerji, Arrah	13	4	0
,, Poornochunder Ghose, Bouleah	8	14	0
,, Nobinchunder Sen, Behar	20	0	0
,, Satcurry Chatterji, Durbbanga	10	0	0
,, Gopeemohan Sen, Cuttack	5	0	0
,, Haranchunder Chatterji, Nowgong	7	0	0
,, Chundernarain Sen Gupta, Deoghur	20	0	0
,, Nundolal Coondoo, Tamlook	13	2	6
,, Joggonnath Barooah, Jorehat	13	8	0
,, Ramsoonder Ghose Roy Bahadoor, Rajibpore	13	4	0
,, Pesrylal Roy, Rungpore	13	4	0
,, Hurrishchunder Mookerji, Cuttack	20	0	0
,, Bhoopendranath Roy, Palamow	13	4	0
,, Rajendralal Sircar, Sassiram	5	0	0
,, Havildar Sitol Singh, Shillong	6	10	0
,, Mohinimohan Kor, Birbhoom	1	8	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*May* 11, 1881.

GENERAL.—Babu Donona th Addy, Deputy Magistrate and Dpeuty Collector, Patuakholly, Backergunge on leave, is transferred to Shahabad.

Mr. N. Warde Jones, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah on leave, is transferred to the Backergunge district.

Babu Shoshimohun Talukdar is appointed to be a temporary Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade for Land Registration work in Chittagong, *vice* Babu Jattramohun Dutta, deceased.

Babu Poornochunder Chatterjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Hooghly, is transferred temporarily to the district of Dinagepore.

Babu Tarinilal Chowdhuri, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong is allowed leave for three days, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the orders of the 1st March last.

Moulvi Zakir Hossain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 16th instant.

Advertisements.

BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

83RD DIVIDEND.

The Dividend for the half year ended 30th April 1881 of 10 Rs. per share will be payable on and from the 17th instant.

Calcutta, 11th May 1881. } H. W. I. WOOD, Secretary.

SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITY.

Wanted temporarily for the Drainage works a Leveller, Salary Rs. 75 per mensem. Candidates must be duly-qualified in surveying, levelling and also construction of drains &c.

Wanted also for the same work a Draftsman Salary Rs. 20 per mensem. Candidates with some knowledge of estimating and computing areas will be preferred.

Applications in writing will be received by the undersigned for both the appointments up to the 25th Instant.

Office of the Municipal Commissioners for the Suburbs of Calcutta, the 15th May 1881. } Sd. R. C. STERNDALE *Vice-Chairman.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

For the relief of soldiers who have been disabled and of the families of those who have died during the War in Afghanistan.

		Rs.	A.	P.	
Amount already advertised...		41,056	3	0	
Per W. H. Grimley Esq., Collector of Rampore Bauleah.					
F. G. R. walker Esq.	...	5	0	0	
Baboo Gonesh Chunder Chaudhuri	...	5	0	0	
,, Saradakunt Chaudhuri	...	10	0	0	
,, Dwark Kunt Chaudhuri	...	10	0	0	
,, Govinda Prosad Sukol	...	20	0	0	
Raja Krishtendra Ray of Bolihar	...	250	0	0	
Baboo Giridhar Roy	...	50	0	0	
,, Harish Chandra Sirkar	...	40	0	0	
,, Matty Lall Bagchi	...	30	0	0	
,, Bhabanikant Bagchi	...	30	0	0	
,, Srinath Mitra	...	40	0	0	
,, Brojendra Nath Sircar	...	40	0	0	
,, Goluk Nath Roy	...	25	0	0	
,, Uma Charan Chaudhuri	...	25	0	0	
,, Harendra Roy	...	25	0	0	
,, Krishna Sundra Talpatra	...	25	0	0	
,, Srinath Chaudhuri	...	20	0	0	
,, Kandarpessar Gupta	..	15	0	0	
,, Lakhon Chakravarti	...	15	0	0	
,, Durgapersad Lahiri	...	10	0	0	
Kumadmoni Chaudhuri	...	10	0	0	
Bhagabati Debya	..	5	0	0	
Maharani Sarat Sundiri Debya	...	250	0	0	
Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each aggregating	... ...	38	0	0	
					988 0 0
Per W. B. Oldham Esq., Depy, Commr. Sonthal Pergunnahs.					
Baboo Giridhari Singh	...	75	0	0	
Capt. Rivett-Carnac	...	25	0	0	
Mupti Mohukum Kumari	...	25	0	0	
Baboo Mangal Baram	...	25	0	0	
,, Umesh Chunder Banerjee	...	10	0	0	
,, Prandhan Jha	...	10	0	0	
,, Syam Roy	...	10	0	0	
,, Heera Lal Jha	...	5	0	0	
,, Gadadhar Sha	...	5	0	0	
,, Bhatri Sha	...	5	0	0	
Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each aggregating	... ...	19	8	0	
					214 8 0
Per W. M. Clay Esq., Magistrate of Pubna.					
Mr. W. M. Clay, Magistrate of Pubna		50	0	0	
,, J. Pasford, Joint Magistrate	...	16	0	0	
Baboo Abhoy Gobind Chaudhuri	...	10	0	0	
,, Lolit Mohun Sha Chaudhuri	...	15	0	0	
Mr. A. W. MacDonell, Serajgunge	...	25	0	0	
,, A. W. Murdoch	...	32	0	0	
,, J. Ogilvie	..	25	0	0	
Serajgunge Jute Company Ld.	...	100	0	0	
Mr. C. G. Ridge	...	20	0	0	
,, A Hanuah	...	32	0	0	
,, R. Leighton	...	20	0	0	
,, A. Reynold	...	10	0	0	
,, S. Gowan	...	25	0	0	
,, H. Farrer, Assistant Magistrate	...	25	0	0	
Baboo Krishna Bandhoo Rai	...	5	0	0	410 0 0
Per Commissioner of the Bhaugulpore Division and Sonthal Pergunnahs.					
Sha Burhanuddin Maziffir	...	86	12	0	
Sha Mahamad Quassim Sub-Registrar		57	12	0	
Sha Mohinnuddin Ahmad, zemindar	...	10	0	0	
Baboo Beniram	.. ..	10	0	0	
,, Ghunshyam Sahoo	...	8	0	0	
Nabab Burkhardar Hossen of Sheikpura	... ...	10	0	0	
Baboo Jagernath Shahoy	..	10	0	0	
Nawab Forasud Hossen Khan	...	50	0	0	
Nawab Ali Khan	...	15	0	0	257 8 0
		.. ...			42,926 3 0

Calcutta, 11th May 1881. } H. W. I. WOOD, *Honorary Treasurer.*

FOR SALE.

BEST GYA HOOKAH TOBACCO.

FOR THE SEASON.

A. Quality or Grapy..... As. 8 per Seer.
B. Do. Raisimour..... ,, 6 ,, ,,
C. Do. Sugar ..... ,, 5 ,, ,,

In packets of 1 one seer ½ half seer and ¼ quarter seer, apply at Old China Bazar, New Golabaree, Low qualities can be had on previous notice.

To the Agent of the Calcutta, and Gya Tobacco, Trading Co. } SREENATH SEN.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

FOR THE

Half-year ended 30th April 1881.

1. Your Directors submit, for examination and approval, the Accounts of the Association for the half-year ended 30th April 1881.

2. On the 31st October last the uncollected rent bills amounted to Rs. 1,762-4-9; during the half-year bills were issued for Rs. 39,938-10-3; of these two amounts Rs. 38,078-7-9 have been realised, leaving Rs. 3,622-7-3 outstanding.

3. Your Directors have been again in communication with the Municipal Commissioners on the subject of the extremely heavy assessment of the Warehouse, and a petition has been submitted for a material reduction of taxation. Your Directors pointed out that during the last 6 half-years the payments to the Municipality on account of the Warehouse, exclusive of charges on the Commercial Buildings which are separately assessed, have been at the rate of nearly 40 per cent. of the ordinary expenditure, about 17 per cent. of the gross earnings, and about 40 per cent. of the net annual income. They have urged the Commissioners to take into consideration that, although the Warehouse has for a long time been rarely more than half occupied, the taxation has been levied on the estimated gross rental as ff the premises were wholly and continuously engaged, no allowance whatever being made for unoccupied accommodation. Your Directors have also submitted that the principle upon which the Warehouse is assessed is erroneous, and should conform to that which is acted upon in England, and which authorises the deduction from the gross rental of all expenses incurred in carrying on the business, repairs, rates and taxes, interest and a reasonable profit, leaving the balance as the annual value at which the property should be assessed.

No answer to the Petition has been given yet, but your Directors hope that the Commissioners will deal with it in a liberal spirit.

4. The improvement in business which took place towards the close of last half-year has been maintained during the subsequent 6 months, and the divisible surplus amounts to Rs. 23,000-6-3, which, after the usual transfer of Rs. 2,000 to the Repair and Building Fund, will admit of a dividend of Rs. 10 per share, Rs. 1,000-6-3 being also carried to the above Fund to meet outstanding claims.

CALCUTTA: *The 7th May* 1881. } JOHN MORISON, J. W. O'KEEFF, TARINEY CHURN BHOSE, A. B. SUTHERLAND, D. C. LAW.

At the Half-yearly General Meeting of Proprietors of the Bengal Bondel Ware-house Association, held at their Office on Wednesday the 11th May 1881 *at noon, the following Resolutions were passed unanimously :—*

1. *Proposed by* G. H. KIERNANDER, ESQ., *Seconded by* MAJOR A. P. ORR, *by his Attorney* A. B. SUTHERLAND, ESQ.

That the Report of the Directors be received and the Accounts passed as correct.

2. *Proposed by* the HON'BLE DOORGA CHURN LAW, *Seconded by* JOHN MORISON, ESQ.

That the divisible surplus of Rs. 23,000-6-3 be appropriated in terms of the 4th paragraph of the Directors' Report, and that a dividend be declared of Rs. 10 per share payable on and from the 17th instant.

3. *Proposed by* the CHAIRMAN, *Seconded by* G. H. KIERNANDER, ESQ.

That Babu Tarineychurn Bhose and Mr. A. B. Sutherland, who go out by rotation, be re-elected Directors, and Mr. Chas H. Moore be alected a Director in the room of the Hon'ble G. F. Mewburn proceeded to Europe.

4. *Proposed by* G. H. KIERNANDER, ESQ., *Seconded by* BABOO TARINEY CHURN BHOSE.

That the Thanks of this Meeting, on behalf of the Shareholders, be given to the Directors for their services during the past half-year.

J, W. O'KEEFE,
Chairman.

NEW ADVERTISEMENT

EAU DE LOTUS.

A sure and radical cure for Ringworm and all other skin deseases.—Applications will not irritate the parts nor stain the linen. Price As. 8 per phial.

Sold by the Agent.
O. DE. CARRY,
62, Free School Street, Calcutta.

Strychnidine.—Acts as a specific for Nervous Debility, General Debility, Loss of Energy, Nervous Prostration from over-work, Chronic Indigestion, Melancholia Lassitude, Hepatic or Splenic hypertrophy, &c. Per bottle Rs. 4, *cure guaranteed.* Apply—W. ROODER & Co., Simla, Calcutta.

VALUABLE LAW BOOKS.

Privy Council Judgments on Indian Appeals Vol. I. 1825-1862 by Pandit Pran Nath Saraswati M.A. B. L., and Babu Bedhu Bhusan Banerjee B.A. B.L., Pleaders Rs. 15-10.

Macnaghten's Select Reports of the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut from 1791-1848 in 7 Vols. Rs. 70 reduced to Rs. 40.

Macnaghten and Colebrookes translation of Mitacshara Juridical portion complete edition with Chart, Rulings, and Index Rs. 8.

Wynch's translation of Daya Croma Sungraha, one of the greatest authorities in Hindu Law of Bengal School with Rulings up to date by Pandit Girish Chunder Tarkalankar Rs. 4.

Apply Nobin Chunder Nundy, Tomohur Press, Serampore.

Bhowanipore, May 1881. } SREENATH BANERJEE, Publisher.

Notice.

Wanted a second master for the Dighapatia H. C. E. School for salary Rs. 50 a month The school is some two miles distant from the Railway Station at Natore. All applications are to be sent in before 10th June to the Sub-divisional officer Natore.

GIRIS CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTI,
The 11th May 1881. Head-master.

FOR SALE AT KISHNAGHUR.

An Upper-roomed house with about 32 beegahs of land, near the Circuit house. Apply to—

R. C. S. Mackenzie E. I. R. House, Clive Street, Calcutta.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

SOLE AGENTS FOR

Messrs, Chubb & Sons,

Cocks.	Despatch Boxes,
Latches.	Wrought Iron Key Boxes.
Cash Boxes.	Wrought Iron Chests.
Paper Boxes.	Wrought Iron Plate Safes.
Writing Boxes.	
Deed Boxes.	

Strong Wrought Iron Doors and Frames, and Patent Strong Wrought Iron Fireproof Safes.

These Safes are lined throughout with the best known Fire-resisting and Non-conducting composition. The Doors are protected by Chubb's Patent drill-preventive, in addition to the principle of fitting a plate of hardened Steel between the lock and door, and secured by Chubb's Patent Gunpowder-proof Locks, containing all the recently patented improvements.

Prices and Particulars on application.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.,
Calcutta.

ZOEDONE.

THE Indian Zoedone Company Limited will shortly import into this Presidency pending the completion of arrangements to manufacture it on the spot. The celebrated non-alcoholic tonic beverage ZOEDONE, the consumption of which in Europe is already enormous. Further and more detailed advertisements will shortly appear, meanwhile attention is directed to this valuable preparation as being in the highest degree suitable for India.

ZOEDONE. A delicious sparkling beverage for daily use.

ZOEDONE is exhilarating, yet non-alcoholic.

ZOEDONE may be taken continuously as a substitute for alcoholic liquors with the most beneficial results.

ZOEDONE is refreshing, stimulating and invigorating.

ZOEDONE as a nerve and brain tonic is unrivalled.

ZOEDONE contains all the essential constituents of the blood, the brain, and nerve tissue.

ZOEDONE—For diminished vitality.

ZOEDONE For nervous exhaustion.

ZOEDONE—For supplying nerve force.

ZOEDONE—For brain exhaustion from over study.

ZOEDONE—When the system is below par and require building up.

ZOEDONE—Dr. G. S. Ranking, Surgeon, Indian Medical Department writes of it thus :—I am of opinion that in Zoedone is to be found a complete solution of the problem, which has long exercised the minds of the medical profession in India viz., the discovery of a beverage which shall assuage thirst, restore nervous waste, and while being palatable, be also non-alcoholic. It is my firm conviction that if Zoedone be introduced into India it will meet all the requirements of those who wish to restore their nervous systems without impairing their livers.

ZOEDONE is sparkling.

ZOEDONE is stimulating.

ZOEDONE is nutritive.

ZOEDONE may be drunk by persons of every age and at all times.

ZOEDONE will keep good after being opened, retains its sparkling qualities to the last.

ZOEDONE—For ladies who are weak and delicate, and require a tonic for the nerves.

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